

Catholic Church's "can of worms"



Jack O'Sullivan on Donna Karan



-SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 1996

Tory victory? Norma's not so certain

JOHN RENTOUL Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister's "secret weapon" has backfired in spectacular fashion, as his wife Norma Major reveals in today's Independent, that she expects Labour to win the next election. In an interview, she is asked by John Walsh if she has any advice for Cherie Booth, wife of Labour leader Tony Blair, on the role of Prime Minister's

wife. She replies: "Oh, I wouldn't presume. I think we all have to make of this joh what we can. But I've no brief. She'll do it her way." Mr Walsh says he has tacky."

checked his tape recording again and again, and there is no doubt that she says "She'll" and not "She'd".

Mrs Major's admission will be particularly embarrassing for her husband because Conservative strategists earlier this month announced that she would have a higher profile in the run-up to the election.

Officials at Tory Central Office briefed selected journalists on Tory newspapers that she was regarded as "an asset", and contrasted her with Ms Booth, whose image was said to be less

voter-friendly. But she and John Major are believed to have been irritated with Brian Mawhinney, the criticised by the Tory press for her reluctance to be there six

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astated

aged to report the fact that she would be at the Prime Minister's side during his pre-election

In today's interview, she dismisses the fashion for American political wives to play a front-line campaign role as

Both Elizabeth Dole and Hillary Clinton paid fulsome tribute to their husbands at their respective party conventions in the United States last month. Asked if she could see herself doing that, she replies: "No, I couldn't do that! I wouldn't do that, no matter what the pressure, I think it's so

She and Ms Booth have both adopted higher-profile public roles recently. Last weekend Mrs Major gave a rare television interview, seen as part of the plan to project her during the pre-election campaign, in which she nevertheless rejected the de-scription of her in some of the tabloids as the "Tories' secret

Ms Booth, meanwhile, is guest editor of the mass-market monthly magazine Prima in which she reveals a few carefully-chosen secrets of the Blair she is a "keen knitter" and that husband's political future to her husband "knows where the

washing machine is". Ms Booth has herself been Tory party chairman, about the some of her political state- years ago.

ments. In Fehruary this year, she was attacked for telling a Society of Labour Lawyers reception that Lord Irvine of Laire, Labour's legal affairs spokesman in the House of Lords, would definitely be in her husband's Cabinet. "One thing you can he sure of, Lord Irvine will be the next Lord Chancel-

lor," she said. Mrs Major has played an uncertain supporting role to the Prime Minister, ever since he was suddenly elevated to succeed Margaret Thatcher in

It was widely speculated that she was unhappy with the pres-sures that would be put on her family, and she refused to move into Downing Street, preferring to stay at their Huntingdon

In her interview she also expresses her admiration for Clement Attlee, the postwar Labour Prime Minister, about whom she has written in her

When asked if she would miss 10 Downing Street she initially says "we'll cross that hridge when we come to it", and then, "we're not planning for it just

But then she appears to alshow through, just as her body language on the steps of Downing Street seemed to give away

'I think we all have to make of this job what we can ... She'll do it her way' - Norma Major. Who is she talking about?



Cherie Blair, actually

Behind this bland facade lies the HQ of Britain's most powerful mafia

CHRIS BLACKHURST

If, as expected, Archie Norman, nead of the Asda supermarket chain and now the prospective candidate for the safe sear of Junhridge Wells, makes it to a future Conservative Cabinet, he will find himself among friends. not just at No 10 hut in virtually every other part of the Establishment.

Once, the route to power was via Eton and the Guards. Today, it is McKinsey, a firm of American management consultants, based in Jermyn Street, in the West End of London, and a mafia-like network at the top of British life.

McKinsey breeds its own priesthood, its own sense of togetherness. McKinsey graduates tend to talk the same language. think the same thoughts, share the same beliefs. Leaks are unheard of, disaffections a rarity. Bonded by adversity - they are often unpopular with the junior management of the corporations they are studying - they work together, play together and often marry each other.

That spirit stays with them, when they are finally lured away on huge salaries to run a company or public institution. The trust and belonging remain. Recent beneficiaries of the



Norman Blackwell, head of No 1.0 Policy Unit Adair Turner, new director-general of the CBI Sir John Banham, former D-G of the CBI Howard Davies, ex-CBI chief and now deputy governor of the Bank of England Don Cruickshank, Oftel regulator

Peter Ford, chairman of London Transport William Hague, Welsh Secretary

Archie Norman, chief executive of Asda and aspiring Tory MP Bob Worcester, chairman of MORI Stephen Brandon, director, British Gas Jonathan Fry, managing-director, Burmah George Feiger, head of investment banking, SBC Warburg

firm's advice - with echoes of John Grisham, it is referred to internally as The Firm - include the Tate galleries, BBC, Kingfisher and British Airways. For those and many other organi- can be done to make it better.

sations - the firm never publishes a client list - it has devised new strategies, sending in teams find out how it ticks and what

Long hours and mind-numbing number-crunching is rewarded by high pay and a sense of getting things done. McKin-sey is called in by the very top, and is listened to. Acquiring membership of what is fast-be-coming the best-connected club in Britain is mind-bogglingly difficult. At job interviews this year, star graduates from the world's hest husiness schools were asked questions like: you have just discovered a microbe that can reduce the water content of potatoes by I per cent - what is its economic value? Or, how many tonnes of tortilla are eaten in Mexico each year?

Would-be recruits for the £58,000-a-year junior consultant posts are put through six separate formal interviews and six quasi-sessions with staffers up to senior partner rank. McKinsey operates an "up or out" policy. If they are not promoted,

they will be shown the door. But even ex-McKinsey employees will automatically be listed in a directory circulated among the firm's old boys and girls. The volume is one of the most exclusive networking books in the world, containing the home addresses and phone numbers of the 3,500 people

who once worked for McKinsey. A guide to the sort of people they were looking for can be gleaned from their emphasis on numeracy and a serious ap-proach to life. Laugh when they asked about Mexican tortillas and you had not a hope.

Labour drops over-16 benefit

JOHN RENTOUL Political Correspondent

Labour yesterday ahandoned for the first time its support for the principle of flat-rate state henefits paid regardless of people's income, in a significant step towards greater targeting of

welfare spending.
Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, announced that a Labour government would take away child benefit from hetteroff mothers of sixth-formers and pay more to mothers on lower

The conclusion of Lahour's controversial review of child benefit for the 16-18 age group. fell some way short of making "tough choices" about the welfare state, as Mr Brown claimed when it was launched four months ago.

But it represents an impor-tant victory for the shadow Chancellor, according to his supporters, who say he is de-termined to challenge "old shib-holeths of the left" about how to achieve a fairer society.

Child benefit between the ages of 16 and 18 is not strictly a "universal" benefit, because in its only paid to the mothers of young people in fulltime education - about half the

The shadow Chancellor was joined yesterday by David Blun-

kett, education and employment spokesman, and Harriet Harman, social security spokeswoman, to launch jointly the plan - Equipping Young People for the Future - which was presented as redistributing resources from rich to poor, with the objective of encouraging more young people to stay on

in full-time education. Child benefit for the 16-18 age group would continue to be paid to parents, but would be renamed an "education allowance" and restricted to "middle and lower-income families". In addition, some lowincome families would receive it at a higher rate.

Mr Brown refused to give any details of the income levels above or below which support would be affected, but he made it clear that millionaires would -not receive the allowance: "I cannot justify a situation where. if I represent the hard-working taxpayers of this country, the son or daughter of a millionaire who sends his or her child to Eton or to another private school can claim child benefit when half of the rest of the children in the country, half of the rest of the

mothers of teenagers do not re-

ceive it," he said.

QUICKLY

Willie Carson hurt

The jockey Willie Carson, 53, was rushed to hospital after being kicked and badly hurt by his mount Meshhed in the paddock at Newbury racecourse.Page 25

Bulgaria's curse

The curse of the poisoned umbrella returned to Bulgaria after the country's top diplomat to the UN accused his government of deploying dirty tricks against opponents similar to those allegedly used against former dissidents. Page 12

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All over now? Neal Ascherson on the century's love affair with socialism



THE INDEPENDENT . WEDNESDAY

Anna Ford A profile of the interviewer who enraged the Tories

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THE INDEPENDENT on Monday

significant shorts

the heat over aftershock out-of-town shopping

A leading countryside group attacked the Labour Party last night after its front-chester Buses North, has bench spokesman, Keith Vaz, said the party was more in favour of out-of-town shopping developments than the Government. The Council for the

Protection of Rural England (CPRE) criticised a speech made by Mr Vaz at a planning conference in Canary Wharf, east London, saying its tone was "disturbing". Mr Vaz told an audience of planners. politicians and developers that the out-of-town supermarkets were innovative, exciting and "the best in the world". He added that Whitehall should not stand in the way of "this retail revolution". Neil Sinden, of the CPRE, promised the council would light "tooth and nail" any attempt by a Labour government to relax restrictions on new out-oftown retail developments. Nicholas Schoon

Pensioner dies after rape

A 73-year-old woman died after she was raped as she village yesterday. The pensioner, who cannot be named for legal reasons, was A redundant sales director's dragged along a footpath and assaulted as she walked in Tetney, Lincolnshire, shortly before 9am. The police, who are appealing for "I need a job", Roy Smith, witnesses, described her attacker as stout, between 30 AST Group in Tewkesbury, and 40, and wearing a dark iumper and icans.

Labour takes IRA bomb's hits bus services

hlamed the effects of the IRA bomh in Manchester three months ago for its de-cision to scrap 85 routes by the end of the month, saying the bomh has deterred passengers from travelling into the devastated city centre, making the routes uneco-nomic. Joe Clarke, chairman of the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority, which reacted angrily to the move, said it would affect half-a-million journeys a year. Patrick Tooher

Man cleared of Aids threat to Sainsbury

Lee Ellison, 21, from Witham, in Essex, was cleared at the Old Bailey yesterday of taking part in an alleged £100,000 plot to blackmail supermarket giant Sainsbury's with a threat to contaminate food with Aidsinfected blood.

Out-of-work sales director hitches a job

bid to find a joh by standing at a roadside with a placard has paid off. After two weeks with his poster saying 49, has been taken on by the Gloucestershire, as an international sales manager.



Ton cop: A 1950s police phone box being added to the National Telephone Wosk Collection at the Avoncroft Museum in Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, yesterday Photograph: Newsteam in the Union."

Major rejects fury over BSE cull 'U-turn'

JOHN RENTOUL Political Correspondent

John Major yesterday ignored a storm of European protest over the Government's decision to abandon its undertaking to slaughter edra cattle, urging an end to "hysteria" over BSE.

Ministers decided on Thursday to shelve the deal agreed with other EU countries at the Florence summit in June, after Conservative MPs said they would not support the cull order in a Commons vote.

The Prime Minister, in his Huntingdon constituency, denied Britain had torn up the Florence deal: "It was perfectly clear within the Florence agreement that if new evidence arose, we had to consider that evidence. In this country, confidence has been restored a good deal more quickly than in many other countries in Europe, so'I hope people can push aside some of the hysteria that we

have heard."
Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, said the decision was "not acceptable", and Klaus Hänsch, president of the European Parliament, said it would be better for Britain to would not respect joint deci-sions. Mr Kinkel said: "The main priority is the health of the consumer. The ban on importing British cattle, beef and other products will remain in force.

Mr Hänsch said: "If the British abandon the Union's internal solidarity, when they

Philippe Vasseur, the French Agriculture Minister, said: "The

be met with perplexity by other European countries." Border controls to keep out British beef would be tightened, he added. Irish reaction was equally robust. John Donnelly, president of the Irish Farmers Association, called the move "a major political hlunder". It was "an absolute disgrace that Britain, which created the BSE problem, was deciding not to cooperate with the slanghter pol-

unilateral decision ... can only

to be playing politics with the livelihoods of farmers right across the EU." At the Florence summit Britain agreed to slaughter an extra 147,000 younger cattle as part of a programme leading to

icy. The UK government seems

the lifting of the ban on the ex-port of British beef. As a result of the deal, Mr Major called off his campaign to use the British veto to block EU husiness.

Yesterday he denied the "beef war" had been in vain but appeared to accept Britain would have to start from square one to negotiate another deal to get the ban lifted.

The November target Mr Major set after Florence for the lifting of the ban now stands no chance of being met, and the **European Commission expects** it to last several years.

But EU officials held out an olive branch yesterday, saying they would consider lifting the ban on Britain's proven BSEfree, grass-fed herds, found mainly in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

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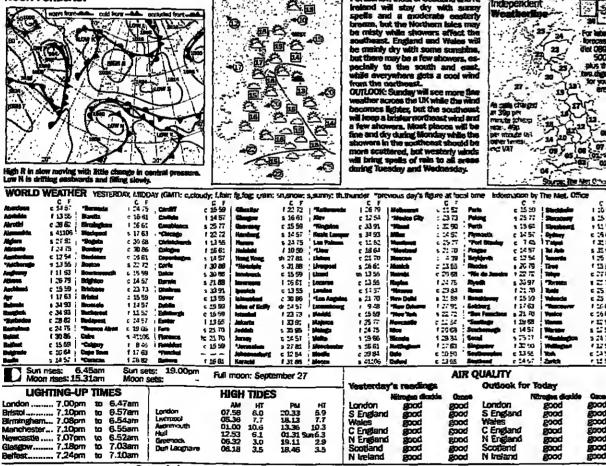
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No.3098 Saturday 21 September

24 Container (3) Solution to posterday's Concise Crossword:

CROSS: I Ballet, 4 Knees (Ballinese), 8 Least, 9 Halberd, 10 Austere,
Hype, 12 Rip, 14 Knot, 15 Ruok, 18 Sob, 21 Abed, 23 Example, 25
asuke, 19 Bleat, 27 Ditch, 28 Censor, DOWN: 1 Bulsam, 2 Liaison, 3
http://dx.doi.org/10.1008/pnsss.

Passed, 19 Beret, 20 Better, 22 Enact, 24 Sigh.

19 Present (4) 21 French pancake (5)

Notes

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Catholics contemplate can of worms

ANDREW BROWN

Ford

The "can of worms" that is the The "can of worms" that is the Bishop Wright scandal may hold further unpleasant surprises, a leading Scottish Catholic warned yesterday. The Archishop of St Andrews and Edgarburgh, the Most Rev Keith Brien, was speaking after revelations that Bishop Roderick Wright, who last week fled ick Wright, who last week fled from his post accompanied by





one woman, Kathleen Macphee, and then turned out to have a 15-year-old son by another, Joanna Whibley, had also been accused three years ago of a relationship with a third, whose name the Archbishop of Glasgow has forgotten.

Dr O'Brien said yesterday: "There's always the possibility of other revelations. This Roddy Wright has had a weakness with regard to sexuality. When one opens a can of worms, one just doesn't realise what's at the bottom of it."

Cardinal Thomas Winning, the leader of the Catholic Church in Scotland, also revealed yesterday that he and "a_ nior colleague" had ques-tioned Bishop Wright, 56, three years ago about allegations that this would be possible 18 he had had an affair with a months ago.

woman. The cardinal said he could no longer remember the name of the woman in question, hut that when he confronted Bishop Wright, "We received a categorical denial, and a guarantee that not only was it un-

true, but it was scurrilous."
The cardinal said in interviews with the Scottish media that now he felt "doubly abandoned ... betrayed and let down" by Bishop Wright. But there had been nothing the Church could do in the face of

Bishop Wright was known to have been rejuctant to take up his post as Bishop of Argyll and the Isles when promoted six years ago. Cardinal Winning said yesterday: "I knew he had very serious misgivings, even before his ordination.

Given the background, I don't think anybody in their senses would have done it."
But, he said, "I'm concerned

more today about the people who have suffered as a result of this, beginning with the mother and child ... the families of the bishop and the family of Kathleen MacPhee. I'm concerned about the morale of our priests, who feel tainted by what has happened."

Attention now focused on the possibility that Church funds may have been used to support Joanne Whibley, 48, the mother of Bishop Wright's son Kevin. When the Bishop of Galway, the Rt Rev Eamon Casey, was dis-covered to have a 17-year-old son four years ago, he turned out to have paid £70,000 in support from a secret diocesan fund over the child's lifetime.

However, Church sources maintained that the £2,000 cheque which Ms Whibley recently received from the bishop was the fruits of an insurance policy he had taken out when their child was born.

Ms Whibley spent yesterday under siege from more than 30 journalists and photographers at her Sussex home. She suggested that the Church set up a telephone hot line for women who had had children by priests, rather than waiting for the media to flush them out.

A support group for priests who resigned their ministry to marry said that they were still not allowed to advertise their presence in the official Catholic Directory, despite being led to believe by Cardinal Basil Hume



ommunicants convinced by need for celibacy

CLARE GARNER

The priest who celebrated Holy Mass at Westminster Cathedral yesterday lunchtime spoke of the "body blow" dealt to the Roman Catholic Church by the scandal surrounding Bishop Roderick Wright, and prayed for the mother and son.

Father Daniel Cronin, chancellor of the central London diocese, said: "No one in the cathedral today can be unaware of the body blow we have all received as further revelations

hearts and sympathy went out to mother and son who have been betrayed and badly treated."

Father Cronin described Bishop Wright as a "shepherd [who had] wandered out into the mist" and called on his congregation not to "recriminate or throw stones". "Neither is it a time to lose our nerve in

any way," he added. Certainly, none of his congregation had lost their nerve about the validity of the celibacy law. Parishioners felt that un-

were disclosed yesterday. Our derno circumstances should the Catholic, "I'm totally in favour one member's outspoken views. rule be relaxed and provided a number of reasons why.

Tim Cox, 59, a commodity trader, said: "The fact that one man or several men or as many men as it takes make mistakes or don't come up to expectations doesn't mean to say the expectations shouldn't be there any more ... I don't personally feel that a married priest can give what's the jargon phrase? - good, quality time to his parish."

of priests and celibacy, totally opposed to the Pill and totally support the present Pope and his views," he said. "Look at the example of Christ and his apos-

tles. They were celibate." William Arbuckle, 36, believed Bishop Wright's case was an exception for which the Church cannot accept respon-. sibility. "If one guy in the City decides to get into fraud you can't blacklist his whole family Peter Hancock, 64, described ... It's the same with politics. You himself as a "good, obedient"

Likewise, the Catholic Church can't be held responsible for one person's actions."

Others felt the Church would lose its identity if it broke with the tradition of celibacy. Bill White, 39, said: "We don't believe in our ministers having children and getting married and that sort of thing. It's the identity of the Church. It could go further. The nuns in the convents - should they be celibate?"

Frances Ode-Sarpong, who is can't hold a party responsible for in her 40s, said celibacy was "a

good way to surrender yourself to Christ". "He [Christ] never slept with anyone. If you want to follow his footsteps I think you have to be celibate. It's com-pulsory ... If you're weak you don't have to take up the priesthood. They know what they are letting themselves in for and

they aren't forced to do it." A nun expressed her exas-peration, saying she had "had enough". "As soon as anybody falls it hits the headlines. Go and look at the thousands and thousands who don't."

A scandal for one man, but crisis for the church? No



PAUL VALLELY

So now the Roman Catholic Church has been "plunged into deep crisis" by the news that one of its bishops has fathered a child. Not embroiled in a juicy scandal, you notice, but plunged into a deep crisis.

The quotation comes from one of yesterday's broadsheet newspapers. "Mother rocks Catholic church," screeched another. "The Roman Catholic church stands accused of hypocrisy," pontificated a third. We need not concern ourselves

with the tabloid verdicts. There is no doubt that a celibate bishop with a 15 year old child is a great story. But what impels people to elevate it to the level of an institutional crisis?

Contrary to what most commentators insist Catholicism is not "in turmoil" over this sad case. The Church is a body with a clear code of rules. One of its leading figures has broken the rules. The result may be a scandal, but the errant behaviour of one bishop is hardly, by any stretch of the imagination, a cri-

There will be those who will protest it is not just one. There was in 1992 the former bishop of Galway, Eamonn Casey, who had been dioping into diocesan funds for 17 years to support his

illegitimate child. Just last year there was the Swiss bishop Hans-Joerg Vogel who was discovered to have a girlfriend he had made pregnant. There have been a couple of others. But that is out of a total of out of 3,292 bishops throughout the church. All this is small beer.

Through almost 2,000 years the Catholic Church has weathered all manner of sexual scandal. Several popes installed their mistresses in the Vatican. mosemal popes made car-ials of their catamites. urges of incest, rape,



Cesare Borgia, who was made a cardinal by his father, Pope Alexander VI, with his sister Lucrezia. He presided over 50 naked prostitutes in the Joust of the Whores From Sex Lives of the Popes, by Nigel Cawthorne (Prion Books) / Mary Evans Picture Library

sodomy, bestiality have dogged the papacy over the centuries. Despite all this the Church has survived as one of history'a most robust institutions.

But there is something in the modern mindset which is unable to distinguish between individuals and institutions. We have an incorrigible tendency to extrapolate the universal from the particular. The hypocrisy of an individual cleric does not constitute the hypocrisy of a

The same failure in metaphysical imagination is evident in our inability to separate the shortcomings of individual members of the royal family from the constitutional role the monarchy plays in our poli-

Just because a churchman has broken the rules does not mean tion, homosexuality et al - re-

- whatever over-heated newspaper reports say - that the rules on celibacy are likely to be altered. The Church has, at the instigation of its founder, a long track record of distin-gnishing between the sinner and the sin - and suggesting that no mortal is fit to cast the first

Indeed it might be thought rather reassuring that a body which has in the past been so keen to arrogate to itself notions of infallibility reveals such mon-dane fallibility on behalf of those it places in positions of an-

All this is not to say that the Catholic Church does not have grave problems. This weeks' protests against the Pope during his visit to France - over his stance on contraception, aborveal the tensions with which it

wrestles. The modern church is divided into two camps. There are those who see the values of the gospel as immutably linked to certain social norms, and behaviour. And there are those who see them manifest in changing ways as society

The real debate is thus between absolutists and proportionalists, hnt you are hardly likely to find that straying onto the front pages of the nation's

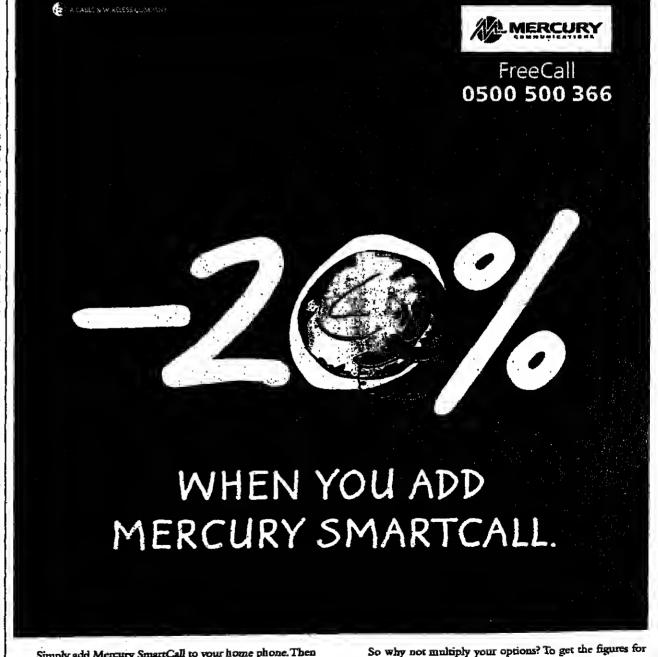
Yet the theological differences are intense and their consequences are profound. They will surface increasingly in two areas - sexual and ecclesi-

On the sexual front we can expect increasingly stubborn dissent on the nature of sexuality, largely led by the growing sense that developing thought on gay and lesbian sexuality will slowly alter theological thinking on what it means to he in a loving relationship and what the implications of this are for Christian notions of

The Church is already under siege for its old notion, ensconced in Catholic natural law, that sex is only about human reproduction. In recent years it has nuanced the position, but its essence remains. It is on this principle that the papal ban on contraception rests - a ban which lay Catholic so-ciety has rejected as it has em-braced secular notions that love is about more than reproduction. The Church's position here can only become more un-

All this has implications for ecclesiology. It will feed the de-bates on the role of women in the church and the desirability of married priests. It may make more disgruntled the large numbers of married ex-priests who are presently denied real

status by Rome. These will be the tectonic plates in this classic Conservative versus Liberal struggle. As the pope becomes more ill they will no doubt intensity as thoughts focus on his successor. Then perhaps we might have a



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Stalker case judge condemns media

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES Legal Affairs Editor

The sensitivity of the judiciary came to the fore for the second time in weeks yesterday when Judge Quentin Campbell, who presided in the latest "stalking" trial, attacked media reporting

of his handling of the case.

Activating the hitherto rarely used right to issue a statement through the Lord Chancellor's Department, Judge Campbell said he wished to correct "errors of both fact and misrepresentation" in the coverage of the trial of Dennis Chambers, who chose to represent himself and cross-examined his alleged victim, Margaret Bent, in person

before being acquitted by a jury. The judge said that "written reports, and an artist's impres-sion in Tuesday's edition of the Times, indicated that the defendant was permitted to crossexamine the principal witness from within inches.

"This is incorrect. At all times I was acutely aware of the potential distress that might be caused to this witness and I took steps to ensure that such distress was minimalised."

The strongly worded rehuttal follows a similar complaint by Judge Alastair McCalium in July after he was roundly condemned for saying a police of-ficer should have had a "sound ticking off" for indecently



Quentin Campbell:

assaulting female colleagues. Judge Campbell's upbraiding of the media appeared to be equally directed to complaints from legal commentators and victims' organisations that he should not have allowed Chambers to leave the dock. It has been argued that this is advan-

the eyes of the jury and intimidate witnesse The judge said the layout of the courtroom made it impractical for Chambers to cross-ex-

tageous to the defendant because it can raise his status in

amine from the dock. "I therefore arranged for him to sit on the opposite side of the courtroom to the witness box, about 25 feet from the witness. Security officers were positioned between them.

"I ordered him to remain seated so he would appear less intimidating to the witness.

"I permitted the witness to answer the defendant's questions by directing her replies to the jury so that she did not have to look at him during cross-ex-amination. I directly controlled the cross-examination, which lasted for about 30 minutes." In a reference to his sum-

ming-up, the judge added: "I would like to remind the media that as a judge I must operate within the existing law. "For all these reasons, I be-

lieve that the many critical comments which have been levelled against me in the media this week are unjustified."

The judge's attempt to set the record straight raises the issue of the difficulty of representing the configuration of witnesses in a court artist's drawing. But it will not dampen the pressure by organisations such as Victim Support and, latterly, Labour for courts to be empowered to ban suspected sex attackers and stalkers from cross-examining their alleged victims. Janet Anderson, the shadow minister for women, has urged Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, to bring in such a reform.

Jail for bullies who forced boy on spree

Two bullying teenagers were Portsmouth so McConnell jailed yesterday for snatching a could see a girlfriend. wealthy schoolboy from a street and forcing him to finance their taste for designer elothes, cig-arettes and champagne. Thomas Birkert, an 18-year-

old A-level student was kidnapped near his home in Chelsea, west London, and was repeatedly battered around the head during his four-day ordeal. Sentencing Jay McConnell,

17, and Emmanuel Francis, 20, at the Old Bailey, Recorder Oliver Sells said: This was not a case of schoolboy hullying which got out of hand. His period of detention must have been as terrifying for him as it must have been for his family."

McConnell, who had been high on drugs and alcohol, had no regard for the schoolboy's suffering, Recorder Sells said, and appeared to relish it. His attitude towards his fellow teenager had been "chilling." said the judge.
"Your behaviour belies your

years. You have shown you are capable of enforcing your will on a boy who although much the same age, came from a differ-ent and more sheltered back-

He jailed McConnell, of Chelsea, for four and a half years and Francis, of no fixed abode, for three years for false imprisonment, robbery and hlackmail. As he was led away, a swaggering McConnell smiled at the public gallery. Their victim, who had been

reduced to a "zombie-like state" during his ordeal last Novem-ber, had given evidence along with his parents at the trial in July, but none of the family were in court for the sentencing.

Recorder Sells said the public "rightly" expected such offences to be punished with a custodial sentence.

The pair made Mr Birkert huy them designer clothes, cigarettes and bottles of champagne and ordered him to drive them five times along the M5 to

could see a girlfriend. Mr Birkert was intimidated with an air rifle and iron and hattered round the head repeatedly while at the mercy of

He was only rescued after he was made to call his mother to ask her to bring more money to a rendezvous to meet their further demands. Mrs Amanda Birkert imme-

diately alerted police. She was commended by Recorder Sells for her "determination to get the police to take this matter se-

Although her son was rescued, his ordeal was not over. McConnell and Francis plead-ed not guilty, claiming Mr Birk-ert had volunteered to go with them, after deciding to taste life on a very different social level

The schoolboy was forced to relive his experiences at their hands all over again by giving evidence in court.

He faced a barrage of slurs on his character during the trial. The defence claimed he had "played the rich hoy, trying to buy friends" while rebelling ast a strict mother and a middle-class background.

McConnell accused Mr Birkert of taking drugs, quaffing champagne with them and acting as a hanger-on. "If he wanted to have gone off home, he could," he told the court.

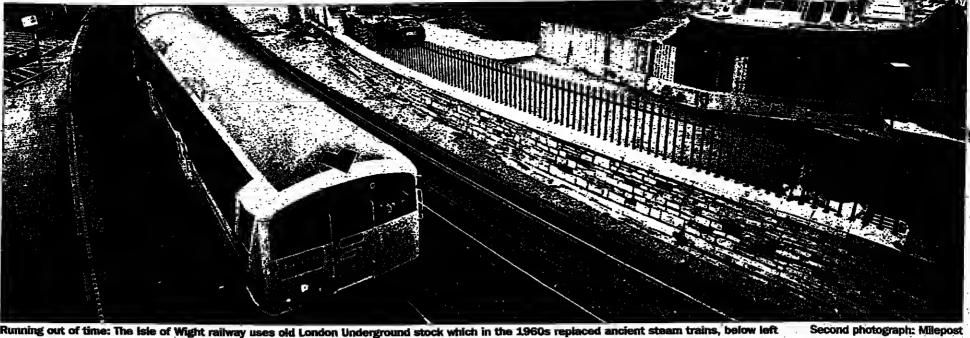
Mr Birkert said the claims as rubbish and said he had felt total joy when rescued. He did not take drugs, smoke, or drink and had more than enough friends of his own to have wanted their company, he said. Since the trial he has passed

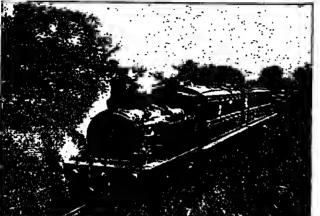
his three A levels - but not at the grades he had hoped. He is due to start a degree in French and management next week.

A pupit at Emanuel School, Wandsworth, south-west Lon-don. Mr Birkert lived with his mother and grandmother. His parents had separated.

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End of the line for our quaintest railway?





CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent

Fears that the smallest and quaintest railway in Britain, the eight-and-half-mile Island Line on the Isle of Wight, may be closed were heightened yesterday when it emerged that the new operators have been given only a five-year franchise.

The contract offered to Stagecoach was described by the company as a "time-marking - all other franchises have heen for between seven

Visitors to the island are often surprised to find that trains on the line from Ryde Pier to Shanklin are 55-year-old for-mer London Underground ple on to the island

stock rescued from the scrapyard. However, Brian Cox, the Stagecoach director who will chair the company running the line, said yesterday that there were plans for a renaissance of the line, which is all that is left of a much larger network on

"Use of the line has been declining over the years, as has the Isle of Wight," he said. "We plan to increase the number of pasengers by offering discounted fares for residents after 10am

Currently, 780,000 people use the line annually, paying £729,000. Stagecoach, which has said that 10 out of the 44 jobs on the line must go, will be given £2m in subsidy in the first year, compared with £2.4m received by British Rail.

Stagecoach beat off competition from several other companies which had plans to refurbish or extend services. Mr Cox said: "This is a timemarking contract, while decisions are made over the future

franchises, the Island Line is run as an integrated business with no involvement by Railtrack Stagecoach will have control of both the track and trains.

Mr Cox promised that the same number of services would be operated over the lifetime of the services and, as with all franchises, Stagecoach will be expected to improve punctuality and reliability.

The franchise is the second tn be won by the bus company. It also has control of the much larger South West Trains but will run the two businesses sepa-rately. "The Island Line needs a local touch," Mr Cox said.



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Chief constable wants safety tests for drugs

JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

A Dutch system of "safe houses" where illegal drugs are tested for dangerous impurities should be considered in Britain, a senior police officer said

Richard Wells, Chief Coostable of South Yorkshire, alled for more radical thinking in trying to reduce the harm that

He suggested that there might be important lessons to learn from the oetwork of centres in the Netherlands known as "safe houses" where people can take ecstasy tablets and for about 80p have them tested to discover whether they have been mixed with other dangerous substances

Mr Wells said: "This is about making the drugs that people are taking less harmful, in the same way as substituting methadooe for heroin, or oeedie-exchange schemes.

"In Holland people from the two testing systems. Ravers drug culture, supported by government funds, go to parties and raves and offer a cheap service for people to test drugs.

MICROSOFT

"I'm not calling for that in Britain - the Dutch culture is a more progressive culture thao ours - but we want to see if it is transferable. We don't know if it will work here, but we oeed to at least see."

Mr Wells stressed that any scheme would only work if it was part of a "three-pronged" approach to tackling drugs, that included law enforcement to reduce the supply and educatioo to reduce the demand.

Hundreds of thousands of ecstasy tablets are takeo - usually at dance raves - every weekend in the United Kingdom. The purity varies tremendously. Substances including amphetamine, heroin, hath scourer and fish-tank cleaner have all been found in tablets. Such contamination has been

hlamed for a oumber of deaths. The issue was highlighted last November by the death of Leah at her 18th hirthday party. The safe-house scheme has

can take their ecstasy tablets to

the safe-house table inside se-

lected raves and clubs for a

two-minute test that costs two

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Ecstasy tablets are also sent

to the safe-house headquarters from 15 centres around the Netherlands for testing. The system is used by a wide variety of people from health workers and the police to ecstasy users and worried pareots.

Mr Wells denied that con-

sidering safe-houses was pandering to the drugs culture. "It's a practical aim which says, look, we're not going to be

able to stop people taking drugs overnight, so let's look at the practical ways in which we deal vith it." he said. Nevertheless his suggestion is bound to provoke strong opposition from some sections of

society, particularly the right, who believe that such projects encourage drug-taking. But Mike Goodman, director of the national drugs advice charity Release, supported the idea. "Many young people in Holland buy two tablets at a

time - one to take and one to test," he said. "This is oot say-ing that we should be encourng the use of drugs - but if people are doing it, there are ways of doing it safely." 100s OF GREAT CLEARANCE BARGAINS

Ginger's glamour and glitter seeks asking price







Ginger Rogers (top) wearing the fan-shaped 1940s brooch (above) which will be included in the sale on 3 October



A slice of the Hollywood glamour of Ginger Rogers (pictured above in Vogue) will be auctioned by Christie's in Los Angeles next month. Pieces include a shell watch by Paul Flato with Ginger inscribed on the dial valued at £3,000Photographs: Courtesy Academy of Motion Pictures, Arts and Sciences/ Ed We

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REBECCA FOWLER and COLIN BROWN

When Archie Norman woke up yesterday morning, the chief ex-ecutive of Asda, who has been selected as a Tory candidate, apparently asked himself: "What on earth have I dooe?" He would have been forgiven also for asking: "Why areo't other successful businessmen doing

the same thing?"
The answer might lie with the relatively few who have. In truth, they have not had an easy time once they traded in their lucrative chairmanships for seats in the Commons or the







Trading places: Archie Norman (top), Angela Knight and Michael Heseltine

Lords. Since Lord Nolan reported oo MPs' activities, they have fallen under fierce scrutiParliament. As he left for a find a successful businessman prising. He has had his name oo ny. Even before that, sacrifices proved too great for some. Lord Gowrie, a leading player m the auction world, gave up his political position under Margaret Thatcher hecause, he said, he could not live on an MP's salary of £30,000.

For 200 years there has heeo a traffic between husiness success and political success on both sides of the benches. For decades, some maintained the most lavish lifestyles. Among the most promineot was Beaverbrook, who made a fortune in cemeot and then oewspapers. His most promineot government post was in Churchill's war cabinet as aircraft-productioo minister.

Other husinessmeo foood the world of politics did not want to accept them and their political aspirations foundered. Robert Maxwell stood as a Labour candidate after he established his publishing em-pire in the 1950s but his ego was too big even for Parliament.

For the current generation of millionaire MPs the draw of Parliament is still not straightforward, aside from the obvious attractions of more power and influence. However, it has still proved strong enough for Geoffrey Robinson, former head of Jaguar, and a Labour backbencher and owner of the New Statesman who entertained Tony Blair and his family at his home in Tuscany this summer.

Angela Knight, the economics minister, ran her own successful chemical-engineering company before entering politics. It was good preparation:
"You can't come out of engineering and be a fragile flower."

Among the wealthiest figures

on the political stage is Sir James Goldsmith, who started developing his political and economic views a decade ago before setting up the Referen-dum Party. Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister, en-tered politics after establishing a publishing company that made him a millionaire.

Mr Norman, credited with hreathing life back into Asda, has joined a select group of mil-

weekend in Italy yesterday, he had still not explained the lure of politics, for which he will take

a sizeable pay cut. Instead Mr Norman, 42, who will stand for the safe seat of Tunhridge Wells, Keot, eothused on why businessmen who have run corporations are

going into politics oow. I think it's a pity because Parliament needs to have people who have experience of the real world of work. Most of my career has been speot in business, where I have spoken with shoppers, housewives and staff. I think I have got an experience of the

the list of potential Tory candidates for 15 years hut has chosen to allow it to go forward only at one of the most precarious periods for the Conservative Party. If the Conservatives do hold on to power, he is at least destined for a top job and is expected to become a minister.



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THE INDEPENDENT - WEDNESDED

Ashdown's Angels want a two-wheel nation

day made a bold pitch for the Hell's Angel vote with plans to encourage the use of motorcy-cles, and a call to abolish VAT on tough leather jackets.

David "Easy Rider" Chidgey

previously regarded as one of Westminster's less charismatic politicians, revealed himself as a rebel without a cause in a photocall with hikers and their bikes outside party HQ.

The Liberal Democrat transport spokesman and MP for Eastleigh had to admit he did not own a hike himself but praised the "positive contribution motorcycles can offer in repollution and

congestion".

He said the party's plans to cut vehicle excise duty and raise tax on petrol would encourage more people to use "low-polluting, fuel-efficient" motorcycles (and mopeds) as an alternative to cars, especially for

commuting.
A consultation paper also called for British Standards for the safety of protective clothing. The proposals included "considering the removal of VAT John Rentoul on Lib-Dems bid to kick-start cleaner commuting

from items such as leather iackcts and gloves if they meet rig-orous safety standards", Mr Chidgey said.

He took up a cause close to the heart of better-informed hikers by opposing European for the rider.

Commission plans to reduce

Bikers of the noise limit for motorcycle exhausts from 82 to 80 decibels. The document saw "little point" in further legislation "while existing laws are ineffective", and called for stronger measures to enforce the present limit.

Mr Chidgey, attempting a Marlon Brando sneer, dismissed Brussels officialdom: The European Commission seems obsessed with issuing directives which curtail choice and are potentially harmful to local economies. Their draft directives on motorcycles are a major threat to the UK motorcycle industry and should be sent back

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to the drawing board. They should stick to the priorities of their core objectives - the freedom of movement of people, goods and services."

The Liberal Democrats failed to back the full "ride free" manifesto by supporting the law on the compulsory wearing of helmets hut adopted a libertarian stance on other middleaged concerns. Leg protectors, air bags and protective clothing should be "an optional choice

Bikers of the world, pre-dictably, united. Neil Liver-sidge, national chairman of the Motorcycle Action Group, said: "MAG is delighted that a major political party has recognised the essential part which motorcycles have to play in future transport policy."
The RAC said: "The safety

and environmental improvements Mr Chidgey argues for will help confirm the motorcyde's role in an integrated transport policy." Or, as David Steel never said, "Go back to your con-

stituencies and put on your

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The new Liberal movement: Gladstone's heirs want to be easy riders and give tax breaks on the price of leather jackets



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Young motorists driven to speed ' by loud music

take risks by the presence of passengers, loud music or high spirits, a survey has revealed. Although drivers under 25

were aware of the situations influencing their driving, 65 per cent said they did not care about traffic regulations or be-

The Europe-wide survey, which was released yesterday, showed that 1,300 young people were killed and 125,000 inured on Britain's roads last year three-quarters of all road accidents, even though young dri-vers represent only 10 per cent of licence holders. A total of 83 per cent drive fast because of loud music or high spirits. To comhat the problem, the

RAC and Auto Express have announced a joint Campaign Against Rage. RAC campaigns manager.

Richard Woods, said: "The aim of this joint campaign is to help drive confrontation off Britain's roads.

Most young British drivers are encouraged to drive fast and torists must play their own part in rejecting rage in the first place. Individual motorists may

not be able to change another

driver's behaviour but they can

certainly change their own." Campaigners hope they can encourage people, particularly the young, to steer clear of aggression when driving and opt for old-fashioned courtesy.

The RAC has also joined forces with Ford and the European Road Safety Federation in the Say Yes to Safer Driving Campaign. Champion rally driver Gwyndaf Evans and Labour's road safety spokeswoman, Glenda Jackson, are leading their support.

The campaign also hopes to put pressure on the authorities to improve driver education is schools and to give more pow ers to the courts to fine or imprison people convicted of aggressive driving. They also want the courts given powers to force convicted drivers to attend rehabilitation classes before "The law can be improved to their licences are returned.

Directory disc blocked by BT

The planned launch in Britain of a German-made CD-Rom containing a "reverse search" version of the entire British telephone directory was blocked by the High Court yesterday.

BT, which has issued a writ claiming breach of copyright, was granted a temporary injunction banning the disc producers, Top-ware CD-Service, of Mannheim, from importing the disc or marketing it in the UK, pending a further hearing next month. The CD-Rom. containing 16 million directory entries and costing £19.95. enables computer users to punch in tele-

phone numbers and retrieve names and addresses or obtain lists of residents of particular streets. It is already on sale on the Internet. BT's own CD. priced at £199, does not allow such reverse searching because it is against the industry's code of conduct and is seen as an invasion of sub-

Graham Shipley, counsel for BT, told Mrs Justice Arden the reverse search facility was causing "considerable concern" at the telecom regulator Oftel and at the office of the Data Protection Registrar.

Topware had sworn to fight any legal action, although it was not in court, he said.

The company had been reported in the press as claiming that telephone directory entries were public information and that it had fought off moves to ban similar CD-Roms in Germany and the United States

Mr Shipley said BT un- doubtedly had copyright in its directories and database, and there was strong evidence that they had been copied. Topware's only possible de-

fence could be that BT was abusing its dominant position by stopping other people using valuable public information.

But any such defence was destroyed by the reverse search and street search facilities. which BT was prohibited from providing by the data protection regulations.

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British theatres for introducing new writing. "It's an absolute dis-aster that the Playhouse should

be starved of cash," he said.

"London is over-funded and the regions are under-funded." The new Arts Council sta-bilisation programme to which the West Yorkshire Playhouse

is applying will use lottery mon-ey to help pay off long-term debts, provided the council is

satisfied about the insultution's

loog-term policy.

Ms Kelly said: "There is a huge irony in the fact that while lottery fuods have provided

£70m for the Royal Opera

House in London and £30m for

the refurbishment of the Royal

Court, one of the great new the-

atres has faced regular crises."

"To think it all started with a

Barclayloan for an extension."

National of the North seeks lottery rescue

DAVID LISTER

The West Yorkshire Playhouse m Leeds, one of the biggest theatrical success stories of the Nineties, is in financial crisis.

It will apply for lottery funding as "a financial lifeline", a spokesman said yesterday. He added that the board had at one point considered liquidation.

Interest charges and repay-meots oo debts from the coo-struction of the theatre some six years ago will amount to £2.4m over the next eight years, requiring it to generate an additional £200,000 each year.

A statement from the theatre yesterday said: "Without urgent alleviation of this financial millstooe the Playhouse is faced with the real prospect of not being able to sustain its current level of operation from the ext ficancial year.

That the Playhouse should be in dire financial straits is a surprise. Its artistic director, the acclaimed Jude Kelly, has proved one of the most exciting and innovative theatre heads, and only yesterday the Playhouse was nominated as "Most Welcoming Theatre" in the British regional Theatre Awards. Critics have described it as the

National Theatre of the North. The crisis dates back to a unexpected building debt and ensuing legal fees following a dispute with Amec, the builders,



in 1990. That dispute over extra costs in additioo to the original £13.5m for the building went to arbitration and was settled out of court, with the Playhouse hav-

ing to pay an extra £1.1m.

Ms Kelly said that at one point she weot "and sat oo the donrstep" of the chairman of Amec to plead with him. He was sympathetic and helped to reach a settlemeot. "But," a theatre spokesman added, "we spent all our savings on arbi-tration and legal fees and had to take oo additional loans."

The theatre has had to amend its advecturous programming, cancelling a production by the Leeds playwright Tony Harrison. Further cuts are certain if the problems are oot resolved.

Ben Elton, whose oew play Popcom is oo at the Playhouse, said it was one of the foremost





A rubber-suited Rhinemaiden, as Wagner may not have envisaged, in Richard Jones's interpretation of Das Rheingold, the first part of the Ring Cycle. The radical production opens at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden, central London, tonight



David Hare, writing in this week's Spectator magazine, urges a boycott of the "hideous Barbican". He does aconowledge that this would an missing the ravishing concerts of the LSO. But it ... strikes me - though he does. would also mean missing the excellent Royal Shakespeare Company, not least Adrian Noble's magical production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. Mr Hare is an associate director of the National Theatre, and it is, I suspect, unprecedented for such a senior figure at one theatre to advocate a boycott of another arts centre. I shall continue to go there to enjoy the RSC

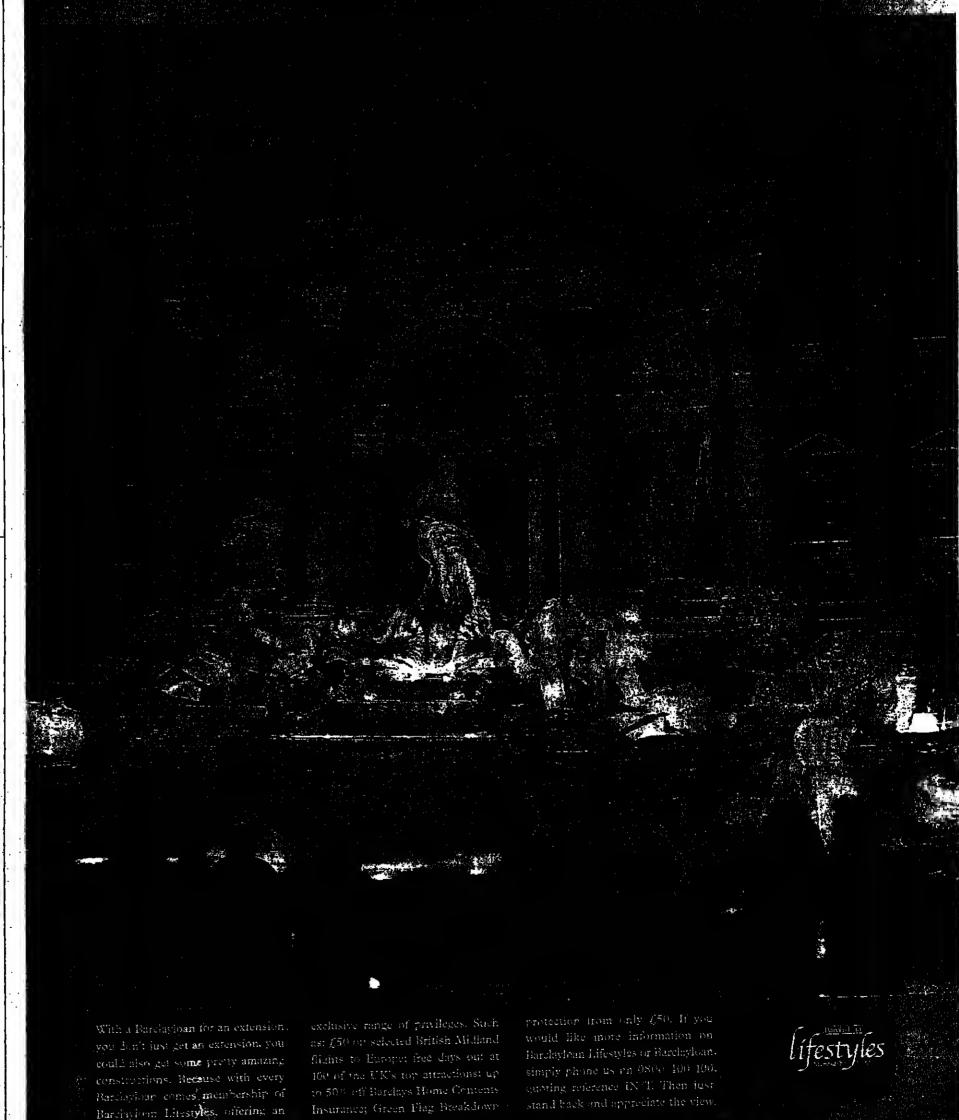
At the Barbican meanwhile, John Tusa, the managing

and urge Mr Hare to do

director, and Graham Sheffield, artistic director, are planning what to do with the main theatre when the RSC vacates it for six months of the year. Links and with the Vienna Festival are on the cards, but the theatre could more matinees.

David Bowie's next appear ance is not with a rock. band but at the international visual arts gathering of the Florence Biennale next week. His central exhibit is "Where Do They Come From? Where Do They Go ?" Nearly 18ft high, two optical boxes hang in the air. Between them a human form is suspended. Time vacillating through eternity like a spinning coin,

DAVID LISTER



Phillip Schofield says,



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6 Even the dogs in the street knew the peace process was over 9

As his new autobiography is published, **Gerry Adams** talks to Liz **Thomson** about the IRA and why talks collapsed

Gerry Adams has admitted that he was not shocked by the IRA bombing of London's Docklands which killed two people. "I think anyone who tells the truth of the situation knew that the peace process was going to break down '

In an interview to coincide with the publication of his autobiography, the Sinn Fein president said that following the Docklands bombing, he felt like "a spectator in a situation in which you are also a main

He said he knew the ceasefire was over after the report of the Mitchell Commission. "The Mitchell body came in. Sinn Fein welcomed the report. John Major threw it out. John Hume says when he beard that he

"The dogs in the street were saying it was over. I knew it was over. Everyone knew it was

Mr Adams insists he had no control over the decision to bomh Docklands and Manchester. "Yes I do know people in the IRA." But does he control the IRA? "No. The media representation of this actually leads to a total misunderstanding of the situation. You're dealing here with historical and contemporary political experieuce. It is not within the gift of one person to control any of the forces involved.

From as early as 1972 Mr Adams said his preference was for a political solution and by 1980 he was telling people there could be no military solution. "I said it was a political problem and I argued for the huilding of Sinn Fein within its own right and as a political alternative to

The talks with John Hume and the SDLP began in the mid-Eighties. "He and I first had a number of meetings ourselves and when those ended we continued exchanging views. They hecame public by accident in Easter '93 and we were theo



moved by the various developments of that time to make a series of public pronouncements. The nub of that was a run of broad principles which we felt could be a foundation. "I think if John Hume and I did nothing else we proved to people that there was another way out

of this situation." He has asked the Rev Ian Paisley for talks; there has been no reply. bombing the peace process was in tatters. "There weren't any talks. Nonsense was made of the

issue on the ground was the refusal to move on the question of prisoners. One Irish prisoner, Paddy Kelly, became terminally ill while in prison in Britain while Lee Clegg, a British para-trooper, was released.

was forced down the Lower Ormean Road and p hadly beaten by the RUC. I think the hig hreaking point in By the time of the Docklands the popular imagination was around the time of the visit by President Clinton. In Novemher, it was a year and however whole issue of decommissionmany months and the Presiing, but what was fuelling the dential visit saved the situation.

There was a joint communique from the two governments. That was all long-fingered until Fehruary.

But could not he have asked the IRA for extra time? "No," replies Mr Adams, again citing Then an Orange parade "media misinformation". Then what is the point of negotiating with Sinn Fem if it cannot control the IRA? "Because we have an electoral mandate.

He added the IRA had been persuaded to call for "a complete cessation of armed actions to bring about a settlement. When that did not come about they could justifiably say: 'We

did our best, we've kept it for a year and a half'." What does Mr Adams think

the IRA hoped to gain by blow-ing up innocent civilians in Manchester? "Well, I don't see any point to it either and I have long since moved away from seeking even to explain the tactical or other int IRA operations."

Why does he carry the coffins of IRA bomhers? "That shows a misunderstanding of the situation again. That person was a neighbour, a member of the ed Kingdom and this place community. I would feel a po- being the thread which, if they litical need to express solidari- pull it out, everything starts to

ty with his family, with the rest of the people in the area who are demonised because of his

Mr Adams does not subscribe to the idea that Mr Major is a prisocer to the Ulster Unionists, "But he's a Unionist in the sense of not wanting to be the British prime minis ter who would preside over the hreak up of the United King-

dom. I think there is a sense among the English Establishment of the union of the Unitunravel ... I think the short answer is that John Major does what John Major does because he doesn't want to see the

union ended. But I don't think we can wait until he goes; I think we have to keep working with whatever British prime minister and taoiseach happens to be in power. It may be the reality that you won't get any movement until you've a government there that has a different complexion, but you can't sit and wait. You have to keep pushing."

In a taxi en route to the air-

port, the driver asks me about Brandon; £17.99.

my day. A Catholic, "though" don't go to mass", he recalls being sent out to give soup and sandwiches to the soldiers. He

had heen suspicious of Mr Adams, initially writing him off as another De Valera. Now, he was not so sure and felt him to be serious in his search for peace. "He's caught between a rock and a hard place. I hope he succeeds, because if he doesn't, we'll have another 25 years far worse than the last." ography: Gerry Adams; Heine-

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US grants Barzani his spoils of war

PATRICK COCKBURN Salahudin, northern Iraq

Swallowing its anger over Masoud Barzani's brief co-operation with Baghdad, the US has accepted him as the unchal-lenged leader of Kurdistan. At a meeting with Mr Barzani in Ankara this week a special envoy of President Bill Clinton made coluse limited affort to made only a limited effort to mediate between him and Jalal Talabani, his defeated rival, said Kurdish sources.

The US said before the meeting between Robert Pelletreau, the assistant secretary of state for the Near East and the Kurdish leader that it would seek

to broker a compromise be-tween the Kurdish parties. Effectively turning this down Mr Barzani said he would only meet Mr Talabani in Kurdistan and not abroad, and only if he dissolved his militia and gave up his arms. By not pressing the is-sue the US has evideotly decided it has to accept Mr Barzani's victory in the civil war.

Mr Barzani said yesterday the Kurds "did not intend to be used as a card for a certain time to put pressure on Baghdad and then be abaodooed." He said Turkey had dropped its plan to build a 25km-wide cordon san-

itaire in northern Iraq to protect to offend Baghdad by returning it against its own Kurdish rebels. At a meeting with Tansu Ciller, the Turkish Foreign Mimster, he said the scheme was not mentioned and "we understand they have given up the project".

The victorious Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) be-lieves Mr Talabani will continue to fight but will only be able to tight but will only be able to make pin-prick attacks. Sam-abd al-Rahman, a senior KDP leader, says Mr Talabani has only 2,000 men left and that Iran might provide some long-range artillery support but did not want to provoke a serious crisis. He said Iran's backing of Mr Talabani last mooth "was oot supported by the whole government, but was the policy of the pasdaron [revolutionary guards] who are looking for a role. Iranian policy is shattered

to pieces." Mr Barzani is trying to reas-sure the US that his tactical agreement with the Iraqi leader to use Iraqi tanks to capture Arbil last month has no longterm implications for Kurdistan. Mr Barzani yesterday dismissed reports of Iraqi agents in Kurdish cities saying: "Let them tell us where these agents are so we

embrace. Kurds in Arbil are watching to see if Saddam Hus-sein shows he thinks he is oot getting a fair price for his support by resuming an economic blockade on Kurdistan. A sign of anxiety is that many houses are for sale in Arbil and the city

of Sulaymaniyah.

The Kurdish leaders say they told Mr Pelletrean that "protection cannot be only against Iraq". In other words, Turkey and Iran, both of whom have sent their soldiers into Kurdis-tan over the last year, should also be restrained. Although the RDP is pleased relations with the US have been restored, apparently at a higher level than before, its leaders say that in the long-term their future remains in doubt. Allied air protectioo depends oo the West's hostility to Saddam Hussein. Under any other government in

Baghdad this military guaran-tee might be withdrawn and the Kurds left open to recooquest. Washington — John Deutch, the director of the CIA, told Congress on Thursday that the Kurdish faction which has seized control of northern Iraq with President Saddam's help has now asked the Western coalition for protection from Saddam, writes John Carlin.

Mr Deutch, addressing the Senate Intelligence Committee, said the President's grip on accurate had fightened following

power had tightened following Iraq's latest clash with the US. "Saddam Hussein's position has strengthened in the re-gion," the CIA chief said. But Mr Deutch said Mr

Barzani, the KDP leader, is seeking to distance himself from Saddam. The basis for this appears to have been the meeting Mr Barzani held in Ankara oo Wednesday with Mr Pelletreau, a senior US diplomat.



Photograph: Reuter

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Kurds fear starvation as aid is delayed

PATRICK COCKBURN Arbil, northern Iraq

Hundreds of thousands of Kurds in northern Iraq face starvation because food aid, first promised by the United Nations earlier this year and now delayed, stopped Kurdish farmers planting crops for which they believed there. would be no market.

Council in May, 3 million peo- is paid only about 1,000 fraqi di-ple in Kurdistan were to receive nars (£22) a month and this is full food rations. Peter Forster, often paid six months in arrears, the northern co-ordinator of the A bizarre consequence of World Food Programme (WFP) in Iraq, says: "The farmers here realised there was no point in growing food, which they could oot sell," because people would be getting food

Ironically UN resolution 986, aimed at feeding people in Iraq and Kurdistan who were impoverished by six years of UN sanctions, by allowing a limited sale of Iraqi oil, has reduced an estimated 660,000 Kurds and 1.5 million Iraqis to the brink of famine. Poor rainfall earlier this year had already cut the wheat crop, mainly grown in the plain below the Kurdish mountains, to 40 per cent below its

normal level. The oil-for-food-plan, worth \$150m (£100m) every three mooths to the Kurds, was suspended earlier this month after Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi leader, helped the Kurdish Democratic Party capture Arbil, the Kurdish capital, and win the civil war with the rival Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. The plan is not now expected to be implemented until after the US presidential election in No-vember and possibly not until

the end of the year. Mr Forster says the WFP is launching an appeal to donors to try to make up the shortfall in food from October until the end of the year. He says the Kurds most at risk are the very

poor. They inclode orphans survivors of the Iraqi An Fal operation of 1988 in which 100,000 Kurds were killed - 100,000 refugees from Kirkuk expelled in 1991, and 50,000 people dis-

placed by the recent fighting. The whole of Kurdistan is deeply impoverished; many people have sold their furniture and everything else they owned Under the oil-for-food plan, since UN sanctions were intro-agreed by the UN Security duced in 1990. Even a soldier since UN-sanctions were intro-

> the suspension of the oil-forfood plan is that it is making the Kurds more economically dependent on Baghdad. Iraq has started selling petrol for less than a penny a litre. In recent days there have been long queues outside the reopened petrol stations in Arbil to get the

cheaper supplies.

The UN plan was to give each
Kurd 9kg of wheat flour a
month, 2kg of rice, 2kg of sugar, as well as tea. oil, pulses, sait, milk powder for babies, soap and detergent. This was to have been paid for by the sale of Iraqi oil. Under the Memorandum of Understanding between the Se-curity Council and Baghdad all purchases would be made abroad. Expecting that no Kurd would need to buy flour - the staple food in Kindistan is bread - farmers decided it was not

worth planting wheat. In a good year they produce 40,000 tons.

Again, if the UN plan does not go ahead, the only haven for Kurdish farmers may be Baghdad, which may want to build up its own buffer stocks of food and increase the reliance of the Kurds on central government. Eveo wheo the economic embargo was enforced, Iraq bough some grain in the north, mostly from territory controlled by the now triumphant KDP. The PUK had imposed a 60-per-cent levy on grain sales to the rest of Iraq in order to raise money.



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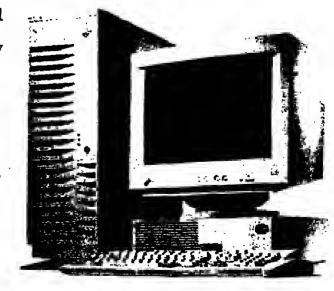
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Doctors warn Yeltsin his condition is serious HELEN WOMACK

Doctors the paring Bors Yeltsin for a being bypass operation ordered him to stay in Moscow's Central Clinical Hospital overthe weakend instead of allowing him out as the Russian leader had hoped. In the frankest statement yet about the health of the 65-year-old pres-ident, mae doctor admitted he had other problems apart from beart trouble

"We must understand that the person is getting ready for a very scrious operation," said Sergei Mironov, head of the presidential health centre. "It needs sufficiently extensive balanced and seasons proparations. You all understand what is at stake."

Russian cardiologists and Western consultants, including the pioneering US surgeon fichael DeBakey, will meet on ednesday to set a date for the as operation in which

veins are granded on to coronary arteries to inserve the flow of blood to the feart. Renat Als surin, the Russian

surgeon who is most likely to lead the operation, said much de-pended on the overall strength of the patient. Success rates are about 96 per cent if you are dealing with an uncomplicated generally healthy patient." But he added: "If you have some problems with other systems and organs, the percentage of success night decrease to 90 per cent.

Dr Mironov admitted that his heart was not all that troubled Mr Yeltsin. "All of us during our lives acquire quite a lot of different problems with our organs and unfortunately Boris Niko-layevich has them too, he said.

Mr Yeltsin has moved to stop any power struggle in his ab-sence by declaring that his prime minister. Viktor Chernomyrdin, will be acting president with control over the nuclear button while he is incapacitated.



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THE INDEPENDENT : WEDNESDAY BY

France tries to reverse the flow of tax exiles

MARY DEJEVSKY

The French government is con-cerned that it is losing some of its most entrepreneurial and potentially high-earning citizens to countries whose tax regimes are less onerous than its own. Although it does not keep statistics of departing citizens and describes reports of increasing numbers of tax emigrants as "apocryphal", the government is worried enough to have quietly put in place incentives to attract the exiles

The Finance Ministry confirmed yesterday that measures used to encourage foreign investment in France, and special terms available to foreigners, such as making transfer and removal costs tax deductible, now applied also to returning French citizens. It confirmed, too, that there are special provisions for brokers moving to France -they apply to all hrokers, foreign and French", said a ministry spokesman.

France has always had its super-rich who retreated to Monaco or Switzerland to avoid

thing new. "It's the buzz of the Paris salons," said one weekly magazine recently. "Their voices arremor, they whisper the names of the seriously rich individuals who have chosen to escape to London, Geneva or even Brazil...

Among the most mohile and tax conscious groups are bankers and brokers, and the self-employed. They are among the groups that have found the French tax system not just bur-densome, but avoidable. The finance ministry confirmed this, saying that emigration for tax reasons now involved not mainly the 170,000 people who are subject to the wealth tax, nor the 300,000 people in the top tax hracket, but independent en-

According to the weekly l'Evenement du jeudi, some deal-ing houses are trying to buck the system by setting up subsidiaries in London and moving staff there to benefit from lower income tax rates - hut it declined to name names. France's top tax rate is more than 56 per cent;

for the tax emigration are two measures introduced by the Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, last year, which increased the wealth tax by 10 per cent and abolished a rule that set a ceiling on the proportion of income any individual paid in tax. But the wealth tax is not the

only factor. To the generally high rates of tax and national insurance contributions have to be added the recent possibility for all EU citizens to work in each others' countries and a weakening of French inhibitions about working abroad.

In the final communique of

this year's summit of the Group of Seven industrialised countries in Lyons, France stressed a clause deploring the proliferation of tax havens. Since then, Mr Juppé has

added a reduction in the top rate of tax to the outline of his five-year fiscal reform programme, starting with a 2 per cent reduction in 1997. In France, where polls put unem-ployment and poverty at the top of voters' worries, reducing taxes at the upper end would hardly have been considered without



D'Auray, Brittany, on the second day of his visit to France Photograph: Reuter

EMU council may punish errant states

SARAH HELM

Highly sensitive plans for a European "stability council" with punitive powers to oversee the budgets of all single-cur-rency countries will be laid before Europe's finance ministers in Dublin today. Details of the stability coun-

cil, first proposed by Germany, are likely to be seized on by British Euro-sceptics as proof that powers over fiscal policy will be handed to Brussels if the Government decides to join monetary union. The creation of the body is likely to fuel fears that Europe is back on the path towards federalism.

The plan will put Kenneth Clarke, the Chancelior, on the defensive when he joins the talks today. Despite his evident be-lief that Britain should join the single currency he will now face new accusations that he is prepared to cede sovereign budgetary powers.

Britain is also likely to come under new pressure in Dublin to consider joining a new exchange-rate mechanism in the run-up to the single currency. Outlining the stability council plan last night, Yves Thibault de Silgny, the economic commissioner, said the council

would have powers to fine countries, once they had joined the monetary union, should their deficits rise above the 3 per cent limit set out in the Maastricht treaty.

Debate is still continuing

about the level of the fines, with Germany holding out for the toughest options and France seeking more flexibility.

The stability council would be

made up of finance ministers of EMU member countries, who would take advice about how countries are managing their budgets from the European

The council would meet regularly in Brussels to "correct" budget planning of individual states, he said. Its decisions will not be subject to any vote in national parliaments but will be passed by qualified majori-

ty vote.

Britain is not alone in expressing doubts about the creation of a new European body to govern monetary union. Several other states say the proposed rules are too tough.

In another sign that Britain's partners are determined to forge ahead, Mr de Silguy confirmed that the commission is likely to approve a French manoeuvre to bring its hudget deficit into line in 1997.

price of peace

Christopher Bellamy, in the 'new' Bosnia, sees the Army honour its dead

miles away. During the war, the British UN observation posts, placed between the Bosnian Serb and Muslim armies, whose front lines were at most a few hundred metres apart, ofteo woke to see the valleys below engulfed in mist, as if from an 1994 when their Saxon troop atoll in an ocean of cloud.

in Sarajevo. A Muslim-controlled town - there are 30,000 people in Gorazde - along a river running east-west, with mountains rising north and Serbs fired into the city, having sealed both ends of the valley. But Gorazde was more isolated than Sarajevo, although south into the pocket. some supplies filtered in along tracks, and it was near the border with rump Yugoslavia.

Its survival under Serb siege from summer 1992 until early



1996 is almost incredible. Only the steepness of the minestrewn slopes made it impossihle for the Serbs to capture it. Gorazde nearly met the fate of the other two eastern enclaves. Srehrenica and Zepa, which were overrun and whose men folk were massacred. And in the middle were the British peace-keepers. They were strictly neutral, and therefore attacked by both sides, performing a delicate military and diplomatic halancing act.

The natural approach to Gorazde is from the cast. On the map, the former pocket has been linked by a corridor to Muslim territory to the west, but it is a crazy way to approach it. Engineers from I-For, the peace-implementation force, and the Bosnian government army are hlasting a road to link Gorazde with the Muslim-Croat federation without traversing Bosnian Serb territory.

Until it is finished, the only way in is a roundabout route through Serb land. It is still a barrier to local people, who fear arrest. Buses to Gorazde have been stoned at Rogatica, the Serb town which controls access. "I still get a knot in my stom-ach passing here," said Major Ian Harris, who commanded 130 men in Gorazde from August 1994 to March 1995, as we approached the former Serb

Gorazde — From the forested checkpoint by the Rogatica factory. He and about 30 soldiers you can see Montenegro, 12 were going back, now everything had changed, to honour their dead. The four, Phillip Armstrong, Martin Dowdell, Beo Hintoo and Chris Turner, all from the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regimeot, died in September carriers tumbled off the roads The pattern was the same as which snaked up the cliff-faces on the edge of Gorazde.

The returning soldiers also honoured Shaun Taylor, of the Duke of Wellington's, the first British regiment in Gorazde, south. From the mountains the and Fergus Rennie, whose trackside memorial bears no regiment; he was SAS, killed by a sniper as the Serbs pushed

There were no Bosnian Serb soldiers at Rogatica now. Vehicles used to be stopped and searched and held for ages - the record was 20 days. The UN, unlike I-For, had to operate within the "consent" of local parties. And this local party could be very awkward. In the background was the sawmill where, it was said, Muslims had been sawn up, alive. It was still not a place you wanted to hang around. The road we now took fol-

lowed the Serb push westwards, which had driven fleeing Muslims along the Drina valley and into the town. We passed the house of the the Serb hrigade commander with whom Mai Harris had negotiated. Over time, they came to trust each other. "We achieved an amazing amount - a complex network of human relationships. They really respected us, and we did some of them, sometimes."

The observation posts were difficult to get to, up the steep tracks which claimed four lives. The Serbs let the British take in their weapons, hut restricted fuel. The British had to use men and mules to supply the OPs. The soldiers stopped at OP number nine, where Ben Hinton had enjoyed working. Now a slah of Montenegrin marble records his death on 9 September 1994. The Last Post echoed round the valleys. The second memorial lay on the other side of town, where the three others had tumbled 1,000ft to their deaths three days later.

The soldiers sought out an old friend, Osman, a local en-trepreneur who helped hold Gorazde together during the siege. A millionaire, with a busi-ness in Germany, he had smuggled his classic American car out of Gorazde before the siege. and then returned to drive an old van round the town, collecting the dead and taking the wounded to hospital. Fergus Rennie, the SAS man, had hunch with Osman just before he died. He had sat where we now sat, in the garden, by the well which Osman used to coot the beer. Osman was proud of that.

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Supporters seek justice for captain Khan



Imran Khan, the former Pakistan cricket captain, waves in response to slogans chanted by supporters at a rally saying he should become Prime Minister. This year he launched his own party, the Justice Movement

TWA inquiry returns to accident theory

Boeing crash: Sabotage ruled out as divers fail to find proof of bomb

DAVID USBORNE

Experts investigating the crash of TWA 800 off Long Island are diverting their attention away from theories that sabotage might have doomed the plane and are concentrating again on the possibility of mechanical

The shift in focus, confirmed anonymously this week by officials close to the inquiry, once more puts the aircraft's manufacturer. Boeing, under the spotlight. And it is certain to rekindle concerns that hundreds of jumbo jets, carrying thousands of passengers daily, may not be safe.

More than two months after the tragedy, which claimed the lives of 230 people, the formal line remains the same - that three possible scenarios are under parallel and equal scrutiny: the plane was downed by a bomb, a missile struck it, or something mechanical went

badly wrong. Nn new evidence has been recovered pointing to mechanical failure. The theory has returned to the fare, however, because while officials - particularly agents of the FBI - have pri-

FROM

ory, convincing proof of a blast has still to be discovered.

"We are getting absolutely nothing as it relates in a bomb, one source told the Washington Post. "Things seem to be point-ing toward mechanical malfunctinn and that is where investigators are concentrating

A rift appears in have opened between the two halves of the investigating team.

While the FBI has made little secret of its belief that the plane was downed by a crimi-nal act, officials of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) have not been convinced by the arguments.

An apparent breakthrough over proving the bomh theory several weeks ago - the dis-covery of traces of explosive material inside the fuselage near the right wing - is now the object of scepticism.

Officials note that such residues could have arrived in the plane months nr years before the crash, for instance in transporting military person-nel during the 1991 Gulf war.

And divers sconring the ocean floor for remaining wreckage have not turned up any parts showing the tell-tale

such as metal pitted or dramatically misshapen by a blast. Critical in the inquiry now is

the role that may have been played by the central fuel tank of the airliner. The tank, with a capacity of 12,800 gallons, had only 50 to 100 gallons in it at the time of the plane's take-off. NTSB officials suspect that an electrical spark may have ignited fuel vapours in the tank, caus-

ing it to erupt. Boeing has conducted its own simulations and said that an ignition in the tank could not have produced a blast strong enough to cripple the plane as instantaneously as suggested by data from the voice recorders. The NTSB intends conducting its own experiments

to test this. "If you get a fuel-air explosion in that tank, bow does it vent itself?" one investigator was quoted as saying by the New York Times. That's what we have to come in grips with."
The NTSB is said to be con-

sidering acquiring a scrapped 747 airliner to set up an explosion in the central fuel tank. Thus investigators might be able to determine the possible extent of damage from such an

How a spark could have oc-

carred in the tank is not certain. Possible causes could include electrically driven fuel monitors

in the tank Normally they do not carry sufficient current in cause such a spark. Also under scrutiny are the various pumps attached tn the tank's exterior. One of these pumps has still unt been retrieved.

While the prospect grows that the cause of the accident may never conclusively be determined, investigators are under heavy pressure to make headway. There are big political stakes if sabotage is proved and high financial stakes for TWA, the air industry as a whole and the insurance industry if mechanical malfunction is found to be the cause.

The inclination of investigators hitherto to favour the bomb theory - few have given credence to the missile scenario has already led Washington to introduce new measures to tighten up security at American airports.

The possibility still exists that divers could produce the nne vital piece of wreckage that would end the mystery at a stroke, particularly a fragment of the plane clearly showing signs of a crim-

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S Korea keeps up hunt for invaders

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

Troops in South Korea exchanged fire with a fugitive North Korean commando yesterday on the third day of a spying saga that appears to have scuppered hopes of peace talks involving the two countries.

Eighteen North Koreans have so far been killed since their submarine ran aground on a beach near the South Korean city of Kangnung nn Wednesday. There were no reports of new deaths or arrests yesterday but, the one member actions". nf the crew who was captured alive has said that as many as seven nthers may be at large. According to a South Kore-

an news agency, the submarine was nn a spy mission to a nearby airport and radio antennae.

It put ashore five commandos

tive action against North Kore
near the demilitarised zone".

on Sunday, but came to grief late the next evening after picking two of them up. Eleven of the dead men died in an apparent suicide pact to avoid cap-ture and seven others were shot by South Korean forces.

President Kim Young Sam of South Korea said his foreign minister would raise the incident in the United Nations later this month. He will also consult with the US Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, who yesterday expressed the wish that "all parties would refrain from taking further provocative

North Korea has made no direct comment on the embarrassing incident, but radio broadcasts monitored in Tokyo yesterday denounced "South Korean puppets" for "provocative action against North Korea

significant shorts

Lesotho strike death toll rises

on a 4bn rand (£589m) project to supply South Africa with water and electricity, are said to have been killed in Lesotho after police opened fire on 2,000 people during a labour dispute at the weekend. The official death toll was originally three, with 13 men mjured. But two more bodies have been discovered at a dam near the workers' campsite at Butha-Buthe, 160km from the capital Maseru, Halibone Peete, a union representative, said that more men were missing Mary Braid - Lesotho

Russia resists Nato troops

Stationing troops and equipment from existing Natn members on the territory of new member states would be "absolutely unacceptable", the Russian Foreign Minister, Yevgeny Primakov, said. But he said Russia had nn right of veto on former Soviet bloc members joining the alliance. hinting that Russian opposition to Nato expansion had softened inflowing President Boris Yeltsin's June election victory. *Christopher Bella*

Meri wins Estonia poll

Estonian President Lennart Meri was re-elected after a specially convened electoral assembly finally gave him its backing. Mr Meri was forced to go through five rounds of voting before beating rival Arnold Runtel in the second electoral assembly vote yesterday. Reuter - Tallinn

Papandreou's widow 'ruined his career'

As many as 10 men, working Nikos, the son of the late Andreas Papandreou, former leader of the Greek Socialists, hranded his late father's widow, Dimitra Liani, as a power bungry vulture. Days before a close national election, Nikos said his father's affair with the former flight attendant ruined his political career. "I think he regretted [this affair] to the day he died," he said. "Many vultures show up around a powerful man and she was one nf them." Reuter -Athens

Nazi gold 'in central banks

Tons of gold looted by the Nazis are stored in the central banks of the United States and Britain, the World Jewish Congress said. Declassified federal documents show six tons are stored in the Federal Reserve Bank of New Ynrk and in the Bank of England in London, the group said. The group's president has written in the two countries asking that the gold be returned to Hniocaust survivors. AP - New York

Soybean 'risk to health'

Greenpeace is listing German firms npposed in the use of genetically altered soybeans in food products or in favour of special labelling. The list includes leading retailers and baby food manufacturers. Greenpeace opposes the new soy products, due to arrive later this year, because risks lo human health cannot be ruled out. Reuter - Hambu Letters, page 13

international

have given way to cynicism.

UN man says Bulgaria tried to murder him

ADRIAN BRIDGE Central Europe Correspondent

The curse of the poisoned umbrella tip returned to haunt Bulgaria vesterday after the country's top diplomat to the United Nations accused his own government of deploying dirty tricks against political opponents similar to those allegedly used against former dissidents.

In an extraordinary outburst, Slavi Pashovski, Bulgaria's ambassador to the UN and a fierce critic of the government, said that he had been the victim of a murder attempt and that he knew of at least one further such meideot involving another senior Bulgarian diplomat

At the same time he accused the country's leaders of being unreconstructed communists

not dried, we have been premafia plot," said Mr Pashovski. "Let us ... put an end to the in-famy of the Bulgarian umbrella once and for all," he added in a reference to the bizarre killing in 1978 of Georgi Markov, the Bulgarian defector who died shortly after being stabled in the less by a poison stabbed in the leg by a poison-tipped umbrella on the streets

Government representatives in Sofia quickly dismissed Mr Pashovski's charges as groundless, describing as "ridiculous" the claim that they had been behind an apparent attempt on his life involving tampering with the steering wheel of his car.

They also rejected the am-bassador's claim that the Bulgarian ambassador to Albania, another government critic, had been driven off a cliff in the Macedonian mountains by a

"Mr Pashovski's allegations are pure flights of the imagi-nation," said Panteley Karassimeonov, the foreign ministry spokesman in Sofia. "His confuct is quite inadmissible. It is both ridiculous and sad that a high-ranking diplomat can talk

in such a way."
Mr Pashovski was originally appointed to the United Nations post in 1992 at the behest of the then governing Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) and enioved the full blessing of the staunchly anti-communist Presdent, Zhelyu Zhelev.

But relations with the gov ernment oosedived in 1994 wheo the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) - successors to the former ruling communists romped to election victory.

Since then the oew govern-

host of other ambassadors who they believed to be appointees from the previous regime. Much to their annoyance, however, the only man in Bulgaria who has the power to hire and fire ambassadors is President ment's most ardent critic.

The result has been a politiysed foreign policy and exacerbated the divisions between the pro-Nato approach of Mr Zhelev and the more ambiguous Moscow-friendly approach of the Socialists.

It has also - as in the case of Mr Pashovski - turned the country's foreign policy into farce. Thus, although he is Bulgaria's ambassador to the UN, Mr Pashovski has for two years running not been included on the government-chosen list for the Bulgarian delegation to the UN's annual general assembly. It was his exclusion from the current assembly, indeed, that triggered the latest row.

For most Bulgarians, such shenanigans have loog since become a way of life, adding to a general sense of disillusionment with the 1989 revolution. With the economy in deep crisis and inflation set to reach 200 per ceot this year, most people are more coocerned about how to make ends meet.

But the row between Mr Pashovski and the government threatens to seriously damage the couotry's international standing. "Of course this sort of thing does us harm, but then, Bulgaria is a funny country." said a government source.

Moderates hope the situation will improve after the presidential election in late October in which Mr Zhelev will oot be

Engineers of the soul try to fill China's moral vacuum

TERESA POOLE

"Spiritual civilisation" is about to be launched on the Chinese as an all-embracing palliative for the country's social ills.

Next week, the Communist Party holds its annual pleoum, a private affair which this year is expected to dwell on values.

is expected to dwell on values io modern China. Presideot Jiang Zemin, keen to shore up his position with the people and the army, bas chosen "spiritual civilisation" as the guiding theme. The People's Daily, the party mouthpiece, is paving the way with a series featuring a new generation of model workers. The deeds of a tax collector,

an industry-and-commerce cadre and a bureaucrat have been described in detail as the vivid educational material of socialist spiritual civilisation construction".

These officials have been chosen to exemplify the core of "spiritual civilisation": love for the motherland, loyalty to the party, care for fellow citizens, diligence at work (especially incorruptibility) and - modishly respect for the environment.

The emphasis oo patriotism and graotude to the party is supposed to fill the moral vacuum in which the Chinese find themselves and to improve the party's image.

More practical tenets address a society racked by crime, corruption, environmental damage and collapsing family values. This week Liu Jiacheo, deputy president of the Supreme People's Court, admitted crime syndicates were "seriously affecting the normal operation of our government and party units and adminis-tration" and would be the target of the next stage of the

"Strike Hard" anti-crime blitz. As part of "spiritual civilisa-tion", this month was deemed Public Service Announcements Month and thus billboards and newspapers have devoted space to wholesome messages. "Enhance consciousness of en-

vironmeot, and improve the sanitary level of the city," said one placard.

Peking Youth Daily, China's most liberal newspaper, had a cartoon of a lonely old woman:

Today, go back home and spend some time with your parents," read the caption. Water conservation was the theme of another advertisement. "Spiritual civilisation" has its more overtly political side. This month the Peking Youth

Daily editor was replaced with a hardline propagandist, and Peking has implemented a plan to block Internet access to several sites, including US media, human-rights bodies, and pornography.

Most tellingly, the government suspended Economic

Work Monthly magazine, which published a criticism of an unofficial leftist tract which has become known as the "10,000word essay" and which attacked the decline of the state sector and the fast pace of reform. The author of the essay has not re-vealed himself, but Deng Liqun, an orthodox Marxist ideologue and former propaganda chief, denied he had penned it. "Spiritual civilisation" serves

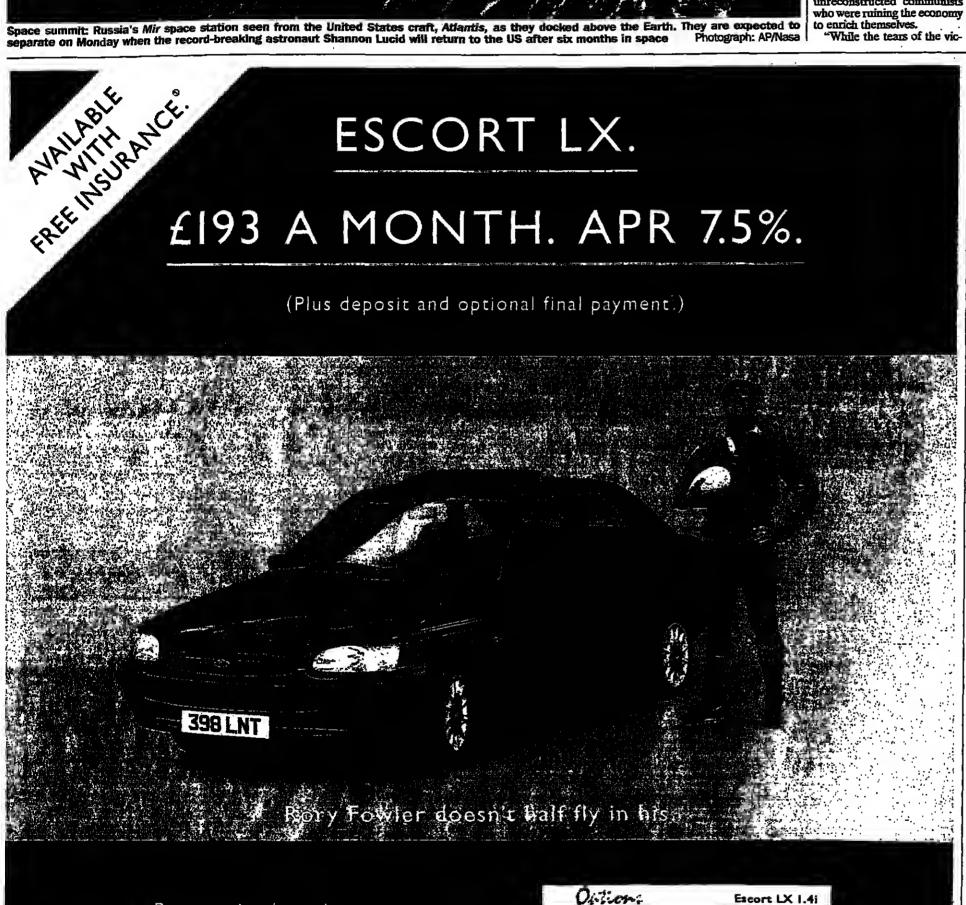
several purposes: a media clamp curries favour with anti-liberals, while anti-crime campaigns seek popular support. The question is whether

modern Chinese notice oldstyle propaganda campaigns like "spiritual civilisation": among most, traditional values

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Moralising is not the answer for Major

an Beale wants the kids. Cindy has deceived him, betrayed him and hroken his heart all over again, and this time he can't bear her taking his children away with her. The EastEnders couple are agonising over divorce. Brookside is doing incest this month. And Casualty regularly whips through the rights and wrongs of prolonging a painful life, or prioritising different would our some be withpatients. Where would our soaps be without a juicy moral dilemma or two?

We all enjoy a good ponder about what's good and bad. The Archbishop of Canterhury may he right in his claim that morality has been privatised. Most people don't look to the church or to the law to provide them with all their moral answers. But it doesn't mean we are any less concerned about living a good life, just because we develop our own views about what a good life should be. Morality is as important to

us as ever, albeit in a different way.

So we shouldn't be surprised when a politician wants to tell us how moral he and his tax plans are - as John Major did this

Politicians are understandably keen to persuade us that right (and not just the pursuit of power) is on their side. But when John Major tried to recapture the moral high ground by claiming that the criterion for morality was tax cutting, he made a mistake.

For a start, invoking the m-word is always a risky strategy; the British public is touchy about the kinds of moral statements it will accept from politicians. But more important, he is overstating his case – it just isn't plausible to most people that tax cutting per se counts as a moral precept to be revered. The Prime Minister is right to try to persuade us that our government is moral, but he is going the wrong way about it.

Last time the Prime Minister tried appealing to our ethics, his Back to Basics campaign was spectacularly scuppered by the apparent lack of ethics among Tory MPs. The fact that party representatives were having affairs all over the place would not have heen so much of a problem had the Prime Minister not staked his political reputation on his disapproval of all things adulterous.

When politicians try to tell us how to live our lives, there is bound to be trouble. We don't want them, church leaders or anyone else to preach at us from the high ground - especially when they are clearly all capable of making the same mistakes and misjudgements themselves. Ian, Cindy and half the cast of EastEnders may well be making a mess of their lives, making foolish decisions, and generally behaving badly towards each other; hut at least they are making their own decisions and not fol-



lowing the dictates of politicians or government officials.

Wherever we have truly important moral decisions to make, we want little more than broad guidelines from government. Beyond that, whether we marry, when we divorce. whether we have abortions, who we sleep with, what we watch on television and where and who we worship should all he as free as possible from state intervention.

But government can't opt out of moral questions altogether; nor should it. For a start, we need moral behaviour and integrity from our government and our politicians. One of the reasons Tony Blair has made such capital out of morality is because his own Christian socialism is so eminently credible and respectable. We like the fact that he believes in something, and has strong moral values so long as he doesn't force them down our throats. In multi-cultural America, a president has to have some religion to get elected, even if most of his voters have different religions.

Jobn Major, too, clearly has his own personal moral creed: decency and propriety matter to him greatly. But he has considerable ground to make up, and his card is marked by the rest of his party, some wellknown members of whom have engaged in sleazy behaviour. Whether it be cash for questions, misleading Parliament or secretly encouraging arms deals, members of the

Conservative Partiamentary Party have not done Mr Major and the Prime Minister felt the need to counteract voters' views of his government as the azy. But he needs to prove his own integrity not just label his favourite policies "moral" To claim that the criterion for moral habitations movement is to continue to moral habitations movement is to continue to moral habitations movement is to continue to moral habitations. for moral behaviour in government is tax cutting is missing the point. Even the most ardent state slashers among us would concede that the advocates of tax increases to pay for the health service or for pensions can cite moral arguments in their defence. Similarly, using the evil red eyes to characterise Tony Blair is a great political gimmick, but it is, frankly, nasty, and does "moral" Mr Major no good. The public may agree that Tony Blair is wrong, but we don't think him evil.

Britain could do with some moral government. We need politicians who are honest, open and accountable - politicians who have integrity and who believe first and foremost in leaving as many moral decisions as possible up to individuals themselves. Beyond that, we as voters can then decide which set of values we want to govern our communal activities, such as taxing and spending, for the next five years. But if we disagree with Mr Major over exactly where tax levels should be set, we don't expect to be branded immoral. Governments that are truly moral don't need to keep telling us so.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ■

Britain and Europe: enemies of Brussels claim the true heritage of Churchill

Sir: Invoking the name of Winston Churchill to support their vision of Britain's place in Europe is a favonrite ploy of the Eurofederalists. The six Tory grandees in their letter (19 September) do it three times. In fact Churchill made clear on many occasions, including the Zurich speech ("we are interested in but oot absorbed") that his vision explicitly excluded Britain from a future United States of Europe. My guess is that Churchill would be truly horrified at the defeatist tendency in British public life which

sees no future for Britain except as part of a Franco-German dominated European Union. The usual deprecating reference to "little Englanders" also comes ill from the six grandces. They might like to know that Joe Chamberlain coined the phrase to describe those, like the six, who concentrated on England's immediate neighbourhood (the Continent) rather than oo the "greater England" in the world beyond the seas.

Those of us who long for Britain's withdrawal from the EU do so in the knowledge that while the

continental market is important to Britain, it is not unique and our access to it is not dependent on membership of the EU, any more than it is for the USA, Japan or Switzerland. We also know that the economic growth opportunities of the next millennium lie overwhelmingly in the wider world far from the perpetual European squabbles. Both in this vision of Britain's global future and in our wish to avoid the clutches of the EU we are Churchill's true inheritors. Professor S F BUSH Poynton, Cheshire

Sir: The Europhiles are absolutely right to cite Winston Churchill as their mentor. It was Churchill who took Britain into a monetary union in 1926 by returning to the Gold Standard. The result was the General Strike, an early slump in UK output and an unmanageable external payments position from which we were extricated only by the collapse of said mooetary union after 1931. PETER M OPPENHEIMER

Chrisi Church, Oxford

Sir: David Shamasb (Letters, 16

September) asks how it is that the European Union can simultaneously ban British becf exports on health grounds while permitting its consumption in this

The answer is very simple: the operation of thal simple and wonderful concept "subsidiarity", which means the Government can opt out, saving British consumers from the predatory instincts of Brussels bureaucrats. GLYN FORD MEP

(Greater Manchester East, Lab)

Nations remains, as it was in 1945,

to preveot war and maintain peace

and international security. But the high-profile failures in Somalia,

that preventing the internal conflicts of today's world cannot be done by

Rwanda and Bosnia have shown

an under-resourced UN alone. A

new approach is required.
In this context, Boutros Boutros-

Ghali is right that governments have yet to define the role of the UN in

the new post-Cold War international

order (report, 17 September). Yet amidst the furore surrounding his

future, this important consideration

The UN should be the framework

appears to have been overlooked.

bodies, governments, regional and

non-governmental organisations,

cootribute to the cause of peace.

network of concern involving the

participation of a wide cross-section

of the international community. The

UN should be the forum which co-

ensures their coherence, consistency

and accountability - not least that of

There is a real opportunity oow

for the international community to

building of sustainable peace. The

danger is real that this chance will

be lost unless governments which

financial backing it so hadly needs.

The strongest possible Secretary-

General and an effective secretariat

calibre of personnel and the

have hitherto been reluctant to offer support ensure that the UN has the

develop a new approach to preventing conflict, which addresses

its root causes and enables the

within which a wide range of

specialist actors, including UN

churches and husinesses, can

The aim should be to build a

ordinates the range of actions, provides their legitimacy and

Nato in Bosnia.

are essential.

London WC1

FRANK JUDD

Lord Judd of Portsea)

Senior Fellow, Saferworld

Pow to sort out bullying neighbours Time to write a Sir: Nuisance neighbours and bullies Sir: Your article "Labour targets cause havoc and can cause mental ill liberals on crime" (19 September) new role for UN

particularly on densely populated housing estates: "Sin bin" blocks have been created & problem families. These families are passed on to another area and take their problems with them.

Accelerated procedures to secure eviction in cases of antisocial behaviour (leading article, 18 September) are required. However Jack Straw has not made proposals as to how local people, living in the hlocks, can be assisted to use their experience to influence neighbour behaviour.

New legislation alone cannot deal with anti-social behaviour. The lawand-order approach is a costly one. Far less costly and more effective is the community development approach, with elected neighbourhood councils. Housing estate tenants are eocouraged to help to care for their own communities, including the elderly, children and those at risk. The whole quality of life on the housing

estates is improved. Nuisance neighbours are visited, mediation arranged where cessary. Only in extreme , trations which cannot be handled locally will the police or the processes of eviction be used. TEDDY GOLD Director School Councils UK London N3

that the Probation Service has "lost touch with public thinking

concerning young offenders.
Youth crime will not be reduced by rigorous enforcement or severe sentencing.

Research has emerged indicating that the programmes designed and implemented by the Prohation Service perform over 20 per cent better than custody. Many persistent young offenders

have chaotic and often tragic lives; parents and schools will have had little influence and the young person's priority will be surviving in what they see as a hostile world. A comprehensive programme to reduce criminality amongst young people should include guidelines and practical support for those parents who are having most difficulty in raising their children.

Political spokespeople, on both sides, manage to reinforce the public helief that only harsher treatment can work.

The public is heing misinformed by suggesting simplistic andunrealistic solutions. The Probation Service remains committed to the concept of being tough on crime and tough on the causes of crime". ARNOLD BARROW Chief Probation Officer Suffolk Probation Service

production of 'The importance of Being Earnest' Photograph: Format Wilde card in a play of racial harmony

Bonus jokes: Juanita Waterman as Gwendolen in Talawa Theatre's

Sir: Your article oo multi-racial casting in the theatre (19 September), prompted by Sonia Swaby playing Nancy in Oliver, quotes an Equity spokesman as saying. "I can't think of something like this happening in the West End before."

He cannot have seen the Talawa

Theatre's all black cast playing The Importance of Being Earnest at the Bloomsbury Theatre in 1989. It was a deliciously fresh production of a play all too often weighed down by its own reputation, and it would doubtless have appealed to my grandfather Oscar Wilde, outsider and iconoclast that he was, to see his acute social comment updated.

He could not, however, have anticipated the double entendre in Gwendolyn and Cecily's frosty exchange: "When I see a spade I call it a spade." - "I am glad to say that I have never seen a spade," and the bonus joke in Cecily's question to Algy: "You dear romantic boy ... I hope your hair caris naturally," both of which nightly cracked up a predominantly black audience and occasionally the cast. MERLIN HOLLAND

Sir: David Lister surely confuses the

point about black/white casting When a play or film is about characters whose race is specified and where race is central to the theme, the race of the actor is relevant. But in most cases race is not relevant and there is no reason why a hlack actor should not play the part of Henry IV or Jimmy

Drama invites its audience to suspend disbelief. The race of the actors is only a factor in a racist society. Ira Aldridge was a celebrated African American who was renowned throughout the world as a Shakespearian actor. LINDA BELLOS London N4

Sir: A black Nancy is accepted because andiences can acknowledge that she and Bill could have met and could have become lovers. Try a hlack Queen Elizabeth I, Victoria or Henry V and you will soon see that andiences are not colour-hlind though they may not be colour-

The context matters. If it doesn't, why can we not see a white actor play Othello - without make-up? COLIN V YOUNG Hereford and Worcester

New Labour, old Tory, ancient Liberal

Sir: Apart from Israel, whose origin in revelation must put it hors concours, none of the examples of countries named after persons, which Stephen Gould gave in his letter (19 September), has the antiquity of Gibraltar's naming after Tarik ibn Zeyad as Jebel Tarik, or Tarik's mountain. EDWIN YEATS

he now square the circle, and explain the moral basis of his doubling the National Debt. SIMON BRADLEY London SE7

LETTER from

agrees; terrible nonsense got up by the media; all right? That was the gist of Malcolm Rifkind's response to the grandees' letter in this newspaper on the subject of Europe. Well, that's reassuring. But I'm afraid it's also honey. The anti-Brussels Tories - whose press fans poured buckets of steaming bile over the grandees yesterday are now so numerous and well-organised that Norman Lamoot must be right in saying that it has become inconceivable that a Tory government would union, at least for years ahead. It would split the party so badly that such a government would

be likely to fall. The Independent's confederalist blueprint, published earlier this year, shows at least one way in which a secure relationship could be made democratic and not too hurdensome. But I've just received an alternative suggestion from Mr John Spencer of Pimlico, who calls for the pound to be integrated with the US dollar instead, adding: "Obviously this presupposes a vast constitutional shift as we move forward to become the 51st state of the Union by, let's say, the tercentenary of the American Declaration of Independence in 2076." Certain "powerful interests in London and Washington", he promises, are engaged on n feasibility study and he wants to start a new party called America Now. He doesn't seem to be joking.

The best experience of the week, by far, was lunch yester-day with the great Russian cellist and conductor Mstislav Rostropovich. It was hosted by the BBC's Music Magazine and the maestro was in formidable form, rattling off anecdotes about Sibelius, Shostakovich and Prokofiey, all of whom he knew. In his younger days - he's 69 - Rostropovich composed music himself; why had he not persevered? Well, he had gone to listen to the first perfor-mance of Shostakovich's Eighth Symphony and rushed home to compose one of his own. After a while, he took stock of what he had written. "It was very near to Shostakovich's Eighth ... but much worse, "said the maestro. Then, in 1945, he heard

To argument, everybody Prokofiev's Fifth Symphony ... rushed home, wrote a scherzo. "Very near Prokofiev ... but much worse." So be stopped and became a conductor, or as he rather alarmingly put it, a prostitute: "In music, I have many loves.

Listening to him were Colin Matthews, whose second cello concerto, written for him, was premiered by the London Symphony Orcbestra to wild applause earlier in the week, and James MacMillan, the young Scottish composer whose concerto be premieres early next monut. Kostropovich wa eloquent about new music and how it often wasn't immedi-

The anti-Brussels Tories, whose press fans poured steaming bile over the grandees yesterday, won't let a Tory government

take us into monetary union for years

ately recognised by people. He told a story about going to London to perform Shostakovich's second cello concerto ("absolute genius composition") and to receive a gold medal for the composer. The next day, a London newspaper asserted thal bad the concerto beeo heard before the medal was awarded, Shostakovich wouldn't have got it. The moral, perhaps, was kindly aimed at MacMillan. whose first opera got a pretty savage critical bashing at this year's Edinburgh Festival.

Earlier, being a bit of a philistine materialist. I'd asked what it actually cost to commission, say, a cello concerto these days. The answer was around £7,000, rising to only £25,000 for a world-renowned composer such as Tippett. If you compare that to advances for books from popular anthors, or what top painters can earn per canvas, it seems mildly shocking. Why don't people commission new music more? Britain bas, after all, some of the world's most interesting new composers.

Andrew Marr

Name of the Rock

Fiscal propriety

Sir. John Major is eager to explain the moral basis of his tax cuts. Can

QUOTE UNQUOTE

She was always such a badass. She wore cowboy boots, had long blonde hair down to her waist and stole other people's boyfriends - Former classmate of the actress Gwyneth Paltrow, star of the film

If somebody sits in front of a tape recorder over a period of five years and then objects to my use of his words, then what's it all about? - Humphrey Carpenter discussing his controversial biography of Lord Runcie, former Archbishop of Canterbury

I long to be un-sensible. I long to be wanton - Sue MacGregor of the Radio 4 'Today' programme

We should be very, very sceptical about what we read in the papers - Martin McGuinness, Sinn Fein strategist, on speculation of a new IRA ceasefire

Mind you, Hugh Gaitskell was a very good dancer. And to me,

that is more important than politics in a man - Barbara Castle, on the late Labour leader Power-mad, sycophantic, poison dwarf with fruit-bat ears - that's

me - Ian Histop

Scandal of child labour in Britain

Ipswich

Sir: The prosecution of a company in Corby for illegally employing young children (report, 17 September) highlights the situation of hundreds of thousands of exploited child workers throughout the United Kingdom.

Evidence from all over Britain confirms the same story - that children, some as young as 10, are working at the expense of their health and schooling. Enforcement of the UK's patchwork of laws on child employment is virtually nonexistent, and prosecutions of employers are the exception rather than the rule.

In December 1995 Anti-Slavery International helped to convene a conference at the House of Commons to discuss the issue of child labour in the UK.

But the Government seems determined to press ahead with its own response to the problem, proposing to be easting child lahour laws by allowing children to be employed on a Sunday. This is not the answer.

We need strong laws, and a strong commitment to enforce those laws.
JONATHAN BLAYBROUGH Anti-Slavery International

The beauty of Bath - and the baths

Sir: Like a man married to a beautiful wife for too long, Miles Kington is quick to see the faults and to ignore the beauty ("A pretty." age set awash with criticism. 17 September).

it may be unreasonable to expect him to realise that the Bath City Council he criticises went out of existence some six months ago in a local government shake-up which merged Bath. Wansdyke and part of But when he accuses that as a result of a failure of a ac, he could not be more he closure was actually the fim refurbishment and

improvement scheme. The spa itself was closed for bathing for health reasons some years ago, but the intervening period has seen the opening of a new swimming pool, and the new council Bath & North East Somerset, has just submitted a bid for lottery funding to recreate the spa for the millennium. TONY du SAUTOY Chief Executive Bath & North East Somerset

Party is the Victorian Liberal Party

Sir: There has been much discussion in your columns suggesting that the new Labour

London, SW11

reborn. Surely Tony Blair is a latter-day 19th-century Tory, with his emphasis on paternalism towards the working classes (Shaftesbury,

Disraeli) and "caring", while Margaret Thatcher and John Major are modern Gladstones pursuing stringent financial policies (low taxation, low public expenditure). free trade and unfettered market forces. RUTH WINSTONE

London SW8

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL nd of summascu in Lemma to the Louisia, the Labelphonem, One Candon Symbol, Calmy William (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk) and include a daytime telephone nu Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.



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Weekendent The Independent



Robert Mapplethorpe by Andrew Graham-Dixon page 3



2 An American in China: Tiananmen Square revisited

> China was seen in black and white: evil government, heroic students. It wasn't reality



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16 The Foreign Office knows best. Or does it?

> Once the FO says don't go, holiday companies organise airlifts to bring clients home

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The whole truth, nothing but the truth ... in the



"Trench explained that I had a "choice": the cane, with trousers on; or the strap, with trousers off. There was no choice, really, though Trench enormously enjoyed warching me make it.' Paul Foot

THILE THE rest of the media was debating whether 'a little caning' by ex-Eton headmaster Anthony Chenevix-Trench had ever hurt anyone, Paul Foot was revealing the real depth of his abuse in the Londoo Review of Books. In response to a new biography whose author commended Chenevix-Trench's 'common rouch', Foot ported from direct experience that this touch encompassed the

'sensuous fingering of his pupils' buttocks before and during the interminable beatings'.

The London Review of Books aims to deflate the pompous, while seeking the real issues in the headlines. Recent articles include Martha Gellhorn oo the deaths of Brazilian children, Jeremy Harding oo David Steel's links to Africa's mercenary armies, and the revelation that British lawmakers have unwittingly spawned an illegal oetwork of agencies which facilitate the entry of asylum seekers.

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Win a trip in the Jane Austen Tardis courtesy of the Hollywood marketing machine

fancy very far to imagine a cinema poster for *Pride and Prejudice* adorned with "It is a truth universally acknowledged that a distribution and the second edged that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife". Well, yes, all right ... that might prove a little too elegant for contemprove a little too elegant for contemporary tastes. After its passage through the colonic bureaucracy of the marketing department it would probably look different – "He's loaded. He's loathsome. He's looking for love", perbaps, or "He's got the means but is he too mean to marry?". The point is that Austen would have understood the Austen would have understood the impulse to pitch the essential core of the story to the audience. But even if sbe was broadminded about the cinema's commercial impulses, I think sbe might have taken a slightly giddy turn

ane Austen was no slouch when it came to the coining of pithy catchines. You don't have to stretch the fancy very far to imagine a cinema at the sight of the catchline for the recent film of Emma: "This little cupid's no angel", if my recollection is correct, a piece of copy that accompanies are the sight of the catchline for the recent film of Emma: "This little cupid's no angel", if my recollection is correct, a piece of copy that accompanies are the sight of the catchline for the recent film of Emma: "This little cupid's no angel", if my recollection is correct, a piece of copy that accompanies are the sight of the catchline for the recent film of Emma: "This little cupid's no angel", if my recollection is correct, a piece of copy that accompanies are the sight of the catchline for the recent film of Emma: "This little cupid's no angel", if my recollection is correct, a piece of copy that accompanies are the sight of the catchline for the recent film of Emma: "This little cupid's no angel", if my recollection is correct, a piece of copy that accompanies are the sight of the catchline for the recent film of Emma: "This little cupid's no angel", if my recollection is correct, a piece of copy that accompanies are the sight of the catchline for the recent film of Emma.

correct, a piece of copy that accompa-nies a winsome photograph of the film's star, Gwyneth Paltrow, lonking as puckish as she can manage.

This isn't the only pitch made to potential ticket-buyers. Both the trailer and the poster use the word "timeless" to refer to the story, a word also employed in the trailer for a forthcomemployed in the trailer for a forthcoming movie version of Jane Eyre. Obviously, "timelessness" is deemed to be a tempting commodity for cinema-goers, which is slightly paradoxical when you consider that time, above all, is what a period film offers you. In one sense, these films aren't timeless at all a they these films aren't timeless at all - they are time-crammed, bulging with bistory, or what passes for it in Hollywood (long dresses and nobody saying "yeah"). Wouldn't it be more logical to trumpet

THOMAS SUTCLIFFE



these virtues - "Jane Austen's wonderfully dated story", say, or "as old-fash-ioned as they come", particularly because such films (quite unlike the novels on which they are based) necessarily exploit a oostalgia for vanished manners and modes of life. When you read Emma, the past has no opportunity to impress you as an escape from the present - because

and the negligible elemeots of any scene

the shape of the tea-cups or the cut of
a bodice, jostie for your approval. We watch in large part because we desire to watch in large part because we desire to be out of our own time, and anachronism —which might be the best demonstration of a work's genuine timelessness—is per-ceived as a breach of contact (those who talk about the "timeless" qualities of Shakespeare are quite often the same people who moan grumpily about modern dress productions).

Naturally, the attention we pay is highly selective – the implicit presence of modern dentistry and modern detergents would only be troubling to the most determined refugee from the 20th century. And while a film based on the life of George Washington might be brave enough to

wooden false-teeth. In a similar vein, as Adam Mars-Jones pointed out on our Film pages last week, every director of an Austen adaptation has to decide whether servants are a pleasing accessory to the dream or an embarrassment we don't guite know how to cope with.

The copywriters, I would guess, don't have such matters in mind. They are simply using "timeless" as a euphemism for classic, a sort of chronological superiative - the word is a shorthand for saying something like "so good that the passage of time has bad no effect on it", as well as offering a mild reassurance that you'll still enjoy it. But even bere the phrase raises some questions. For a species that can oever quite forget its own mortality, the idea that something achieve that by waiting patiently.

unless specifically mentioned, the paraphernalia of period is effectively invisible. When you watch *Emma*, bowever, everything must be present and correct, and the neoligible elements of any scene buy a ticket in the hope of getting in on the secret. But what would it be for a work to be genuinely timeless, to pass through the years without any abrading friction whatever, so that it registered on an audience in 1996 exactly as it had a hundred or even 500 years cartee? Is such a work even conceivable?

"Timeless" doesn't worry about such issues because it has simpler business in hand, encouraging cinema-goers with a coded guarantee of antiquity. Strictly speaking, a work written last year might be equally "timeless", equally resistant to temporal decomposition, but it would never be described as such because it would be a false bill of goods. "Timeless" actually means "timeful" and you only actually means "timeful", and you only

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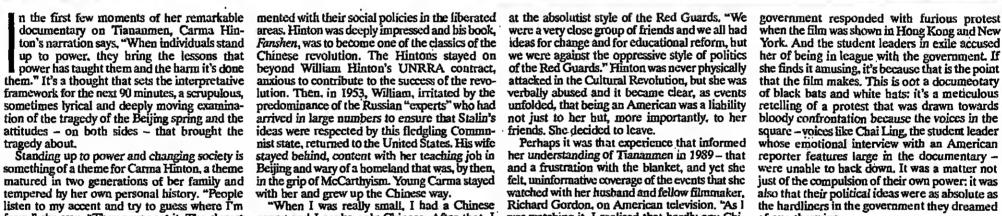
cover photograph: 'Self Portrait' © 1974, The Estate of Robert Mapplethorpe, from 'Altars', Jonathan Cape, 1995

Tiananmen: the untold story



Carma Hinton is one American who can claim to understand the Chinese protest movement — she grew up there during the **Cultural Revolution.** She tells Isabel Hilton about her six-year mission to give a voice to those caught up in the events of 1989

Photograph: Tony Buckingham



with her and grew up the Chinese way.

"When I was really small, I had a Chinese namy and I spoke only Chinese. After that, I refused to speak English, so my mother had to speak to me in Chinesc." She attended primary and secondary school, conscious that she was called a waiguoren (far country person) but not knowing which far country she came from. It wasn't until the Cultural Revolution, when Corma Hinton was in high school, that her iden-

tity became a problem. "People have the impression that foreigners were directly attacked in the Cultural Revolution, but that wasn't the case, at least not in the beginning. Those who were married to Chinese mostly women - were attacked because it was a way of getting at their Chinese husbands. But later foreigners got involved with various factions

- then rival factions would kidnap them and hand them over to the police." In the early stage, in her own school, Carma observed that the Red Guards were the children of the party elite. "They analysed all the pupils on the basis of their class background. When they came to me, they didn't really know what to say." As the Cultural Revolution progressed. Carma and her friends found their own voice - their criticisms were directed

we were against the oppressive style of politics of the Red Guards." Hinton was never physically attacked in the Cultural Revolution, but she was verbally abused and it became clear, as events unfolded, that being an American was a liability not just to her hut, more importantly, to her friends. She decided to leave.

Perhaps it was that experience that informed her understanding of Tiananmen in 1989 - that and a frustration with the blanket, and yet she felt, uninformative coverage of the events that she watched with her husband and fellow filmmaker, Richard Gordon, on American television. "As I was watching it. I realised that hardly any Chinese got to finish a sentence, let alone a whole idea. The big anchormen went in and they became the beroes who discovered the story – the events, the buildings and the people were just a stage set for them. Since I knew lots of people from my childhood, I knew there were lots of different opinions on how to go about change and how to get more power for individuals, but none of that came through." The idea of making her own film came gradually. "I was reluctant. I knew it would be hugely difficult and f wasn't about to rush off there and make a film. I knew it would take years and that I would be attacked from all sides. But what finally tipped me into it was the fact that the opinions of the people who took part just weren't getting through. I wanted to widen the spectrum of voices. So often China is seen in black and white terms – in this case, the evil government and the heroic students. It wasn't the reality. I felt people should be able to understand China in the same terms that they understand

themselves, not as something alien or different." It did take years - six years, in fact. And she has been attacked from all sides. The Chinese

her of being in league with the government. If she finds it amusing, it's because that is the point that the film makes. This is oot a documentary of black bats and white hats: it's a meticulous retelling of a protest that was drawn towards bloody confrontation because the voices in the square -voices like Chai Ling, the student leader whose emotional interview with an American reporter features large in the documentary were unable to back down. It was a matter not just of the compulsion of their own power: it was also that their political ideas were as absolute as the hardliners in the government they dreamed of overthrowing.

"The students all ask me, 'What can we do next?" " sobs Chai Ling, days before the crack-down. "How can I tell them that what we are hoping for is bloodshed ... only when the square is awash with blood will China awake." Reformers on the government side, led by Zhao Ziyang, tricd desperately to defuse the confrontation, only to go down, in the face of student intransi-gence, to the hardliners. Chai Ling got her blood-shed, but as others died or went to jail, she herself escaped to a new life in the United States. She refused to be interviewed for the film.

The tragedy was," says Carma Hinton, "that in 1989, the reformers were moving away from the view that social protest was the result of enemy action. They argued that it was a normal part of any society and if they had won out, the idea that protest was normal and could be dealt with would have been established. It might not have ended in tragedy."

> Canna Hinton and Richard Gordon's documentary 'The Gate of Heavenly Peace" will be shown on BBC 1 tonight at 9pm

OK, Liam is a bit spacey but, more than that, he's dreamy. One night we had a little snog

iam Gallagher is growing wings. He will live with me until they are fully developed. At the moment they are just blushes beside each shoulder blade. They are coming to the surface, slowly but surely. It was the itching of the nascent buds that drove him mad and made Oasis cancel the American tour. It will only be a few weeks before the wings burst through his cagoule and unfurl above his head.

I invited him to room with me because I bave my wisdom teeth coming through at the moment. I know what he's going through and I thought that we could whine and complain and knock back Ibuprofen together. Patsy will come over whenever she can to comfort us, but at the moment she's filming in LA. She's an excellent mother and very sweet, a real girl's girl.

She doesn't mind her fiance living with another woman. She knows that these are not wings of desire. I dnn't want him to

tragedy about.

land reform.

from," she says. "They never get it. The closest anyone has got is Turkey." The accent is, in fact, Chinese, but it's unguessable because in outward

appearance the well-groomed Ms Hinton is a

poised, middle-class American. But her English

was learned, first patchily and reluctantly in Bei-

jing, then, with dogged application, in the United

States where she went to study in ber late teens.

It remains lightly - and strangely - accented.
Until she went to the United States, she was.

as nearly as it's possible for someone who was

technically a foreigner to be, a product of the People's Republic of China. That she was born

in China was the result of her parents' desire for

social change. Her mother's family she describes as "left, liberal, establishment". Her father, William Hinton, was an American agriculturalist

wbo went to China on a contract with UNRRA

(the oow defunct United Nations Relief and

Rehabilitation Administration) in 1947. There,

in a village called Longbow, he witnessed the beginnings of the Chinese Communist Party's

The Communists did not establish control over

the whole of China until 1949, but they experi-

be my fella, I just want to see his feathers. While we wait for the wings to sprout, I've been playing him lots of records, anything and everything but The Beatles. He complained at first, stuck his fingers in his ears and refused to listen. Now he's mad for Blondle and really getting into the Seventies singer-songwriters. He's going to talk it over with the rest of the band, but it looks likely that the new record will be very Carly Simon influenced. James Taylor and Dr John are belping us write

songs at the moment. Still, I know he misses the Fabs. Sometimes, when I come bome, I can hear Abbey Road floating down the stairs. I walk into the kitchen and catch him fix-



ing a steak sandwich to the strains of "Polythene Pam". So we've agreed a deal whereby he only listens to George Harrison's songs until the wings are fully formed. Apart from that, it's all non-Beatles. I don't want to stunt Liam's wing capacity by only feeding him one thing. He's a good boy. He is also a naturally melancholy boy. I mean, yes, he's a madhead, but he also feels this incredible nostalgia, this yearning, for a music and time that he never experienced in the first place. He meets all these starry Alist types, and he gets excited, but even while he's sharing his drugs with them, he often feels very lonely.

I make sure we play a game every day. Liam has an incredible imagination and we have a lot of make-believe fantasies about being in The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. I don't have a big wardrobe in my bouse, so he hides behind curtains and in the linen cupboard and I put on silvery make-up and try to scare him. I think we click so well because we have both been accused of being space cadets when, in

fact, we just have radically short attention spans. OK, Liam is a little hit spacey but, more than that, he's dreamy. One night we had a little snog and he was the most amazing kisser. His mouth moved so softly and simply, as if he were thinking about Lennon and The Lion and chips and

Marlon Brando and nothing at all.

Everything in his head is unrelated. He knows he loves Patsy, he knows he loves the band and Noel and his Mam, but he doesn't put it all together. He loves them with all his heart, but, apart from his Mam,

they remain disconnected from him. We've talked it over and Liam feels bad about the bust-up with Noel and ducking out of their concerts for the rest of the year. But he's sick of being a pop star. He has decided to concentrate his efforts on becoming a better human being. This is

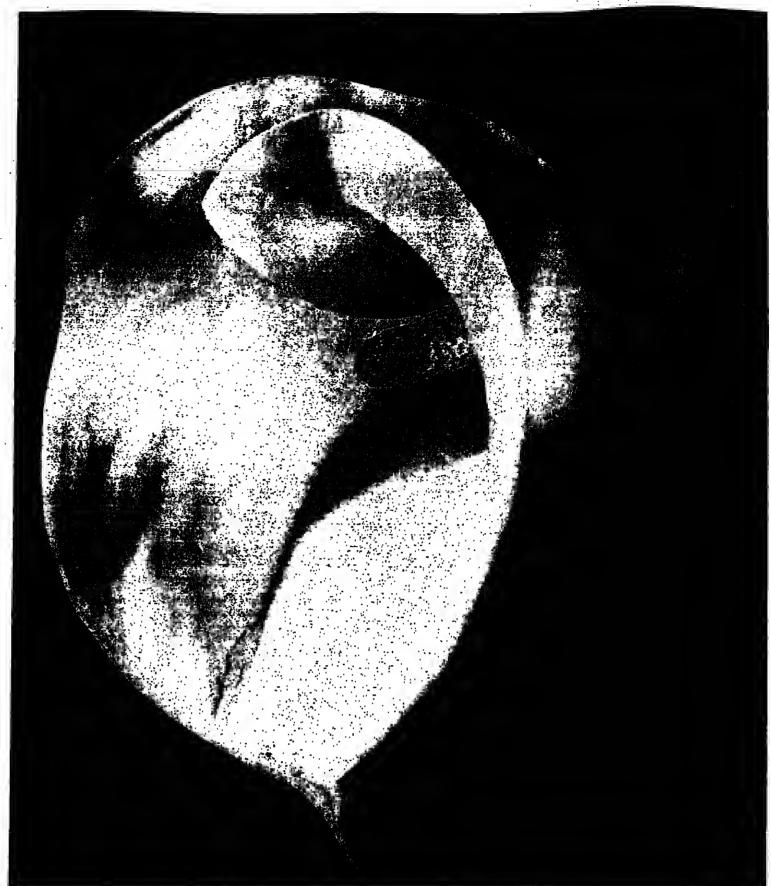
the re-birth, not the re-union. Liam is only 23. He is not the saviour of the British music industry. He is The Saviour. I'm living with The Saviour.

When the feathers first began to peep through, I wondered if he could carry it off. They were so downy and soft, so pale. They caught all the light in the room and made his shoulders glow a soft champagne colour. I worried be would think they were too giddy. In fact, they have become very imposing and majestic. As he's calmed down, the wings have fully developed. They're beautiful. Liam has blow dried them into a mod feather cut. How dried them into a mod feather cut. them into a mod feather cut. He's standing out on the balcony now, ready to take flight. You've never seen anything like it. He is, however, threatening to revert to type. If he flies over Damon from Blur, Damon had better not look up.

لكذا من ألاصل

Scents and and sensuality

Whether photographing penises or pistils, Robert Mapplethorpe placed sexuality on a pedestal of almost sacramental significance. But what was he really trying to capture with his camera? Andrew Graham-Dixon looks beneath the surface images of the Hayward Gallery's retrospective, while, below, Serena Mackesy eavesdrops on public reactions to Wednesday's private view



Fleur du mal: Robert Mapplethorpe's 'Calla Lily' © 1987, The Estate of Robert Mapplethorpe, from 'Pistils', Jonathan Cape, 1996

in art, is sectimentality". Richard, a photograph taken in 1979, is proof of what he meant by that. It is certainly the least scotimeotal and most unpleasant exhibit in the Hayward Gallery's retrospective of Mapplethorpe's work. At a glance, placed as it has been on the end of a long row of other pictures, of many different subjects, it looks like it might be a photograph of a scarred wall m some battle-torn place. Theo you ootice three rather peculiar, hulbous protuberances, two at the bottom and one at the top of the picture. They are blotched and bloated and flecked by traces of a dark stain or seepage of some kind. Because the photograph is in black and white, it is initially unclear whether these shapes are organic or otherwise. Then, with some reluctance, the mind resolves what the eyes have seen. This is a picture of a man's lacerated penis and testicles, strapped into a genital equivalent of the stocks. It is a picture of Richard, in extremis.

"Sex is the only thing worth living for," Mapplethorpe declared, with hravado. Did he really believe it? We know that even he, polymorphously perverse libertine though he was, decided that Richard's notion of the best good time imaginable was oot for him. Patricia Morrisroe, in her recent, anthropologically interesting book about the photographer and his circle, Mapplethorpe: A Life, describes the momeot when he came to that decision. After photographing Richard, Mapplethorpe was told that it was his own turn to suhmit to the ritual: "He placed the device over his genitals and tried to divorce himself from the reality of the situation, which was that a man in curly wig and tights, who was flying high oo LSD, was holding a scalpel in his hands. Okay, Mapplethorpe said, panicking. 'I'm not getting off on this. It's not my thing.'" A moment or two later and, perhaps, it oo looger would have been.

Mapplethorpe photographed faces and flowers as well as genitalia, hut sex will always be the subject matter with which his name is most readily associated. A photograph such as Richard testifies to a life speot in quest of unusual and extreme sexual experience. It has the air of a piece of evidence brought hack to prove that such worlds of ingenious strangeness do truly exist. But such photographs, although they are what he is known for, are relatively rare

in Mapplethorpe's portfolio. Given his repotation, the majority of Mapplethorpe's pictures oow seem almost shockingly devoid of sexual intensity.

Men squat oo plinths, humao exhibits morosely collaborating in their own aestheticisation. Elsewhere, they are anatomised. A flexed muscle, a shaveo head, a smooth, copper-coloured back – elemeots of the body are dwelt upon, hy the photographer, with a cool, dandy's relish. Mapplethorpe sought ont men who looked like sculptures and then photographed them as someone might photograph works of art, aiming to hring out the fineness of the detail. Had he lived a different life, the nearly religious qualities of his approach might have been ooted more often. Mapplethorpe marvels at the beauty of which the human form is capable, much as earlier, more transcendentally minded American artists had wondered at the paradisial heauty of nature.

Mapplethorpe's pictures of the male nude do oot often seem touched by desire. Nor do they seem intended to inspire it in others. Despite the occasional act of calculated outrageousness - the most ootorious example of which is the self-portrait in which he photographed himself with a hullwhip inserted, handle first, into his own anus - his imagination had a naturally abstract, almost Platonic cast to it. The people he photographed were archetypes of what he perceived to be either perfection or perfect strangeness. Lit to the point where they are almost overlit, faces in Mapplethorpe's photographs become disembodied, abstracts of physiognomy like the faces of angels. Ken and Robert, a hairless white man and a hairless black man, seen hust-length, in profile, are photographic oegatives of one another but twins in their weirdness. Doris Saatchi is yet stranger, a spotlit creature from an apparition, a metallic phantom, with her platinum hair, her melancholy and her air of withdrawn malignity.

The way in which Mapplethorpe's pictures have been displayed at the Hayward leaves much to be desired. The works have heen crowded on to the walls and ofteo double-hung. Each ooe has, by this strategy, been reduced to an element in a curator's collage. This makes the photographs read as information rather than images, and thus denatures Mapplethorpe by making him look like some archivist of the gay

scene - a documeotary photographer in the same slight mould as that recorder of the Californian homosexual community, Nan Goldin. The crowding together of his works also fatally obscures Mapplethorpe's chief talent as a photographer, an essentially classical ahility to create memo-

rable single images, with something of the quality of icons. Mapplethorpe brought the same cool and decadent chic to all that he photographed. He was oot, as is sometimes claimed, one of the very greatest photographers. But he was an extremely good ooe. He managed to force his obsessions into an imagery that was, inimitably, his, with the result that he (just as surely as, say, Diane Arhus) created his own homogeoeous photographic universe. There is a self-possessed, elegant, prickly quality about all his best photographs. They are oot necessarily all photographs of sex, although sexuality is usually implied in some form, whether Mapplethorpe is photographing the pistils of flowers, or a pair of testicular cacti poised atop a great penile vase, or red-eyed Dooald Sutherland, looming out at you from the wall like a threat. But, whatever the subject, Mapplethorpe's photographs are all pictures of difference, of a proud and independent weirdness. It is as if, by taking pictures, he hoped to create an alternative world. a place of higher oddity, among whose creatures he him-

self might live at peace.

His most intriguing and original pictures are his pictures of meo's penises, of which, as might be expected, there are many. The penis, as photographed by Mapplethorpe, is like some curious plant that grows unaccountably and extraordinarily out of men's bodies. Paradoxically, his predatory, erectile flowers have more of the expected qualities of penises, while his penises are so exotically weird they seem inhuman, like some parasite species that has managed to graft itself on to the human form. Man in a Polyester Suit, a mild hut somehow shocking photograph of a man's penis simply hanging out of his flies, expresses this most clearly. The penis looks like an elephant's trunk, not really human at all – certainly not civilised. Mapplethorpe's subject, in photographs such as these, is the gap between our sexual selves and our everyday, social selves.

Because of his complicated, almost touching affection for the penis, Mapplethorpe photographed it in a way that comhined close observation with a sense of the sacramental. It was his hread and wine because he recognised it as the least controllable, most autonomous part of a man's body, the part that can drive him to behave in the most extraordinary, unaccountable, outlandish ways. It was outlandishness that appealed to Mapplethorpe, perhaps, more than anything else. It is certainly the single streak running through his work. He photographed people as if they were angels or demons from other worlds. The flowers he photographed are fleurs du mal, not the bourgeois hlooms of the customary floral still life. Eveo Richard, poor mutilated Richard, has a kind of poignancy, once the horror of the image has receded. The image is certainly much more strange than it

Freudians tell us that works of art which seem superficially to he about quite different things are really, at the deepest level, all about sex. But Mapplethorpe's work presents a peculiar challenge to such interpretation. The sex in his work is so patent and so hlatant, so releotlessly there to the surface, all the time, that it is difficult to end up concluding that it was oot, really, a cover for some other, even deeper obsession.

Mapplethorpe was fascinated by sex – loved sex, lived (and died) for sex – oot perhaps for sex in itself hut hecause he felt sex, and especially his kind of sex, took him out of the ordinary world and out of his ordinary self. The child of abnormally, aggressively "normal" parents, nothing horrified him more than mundanity. Nothing terrified him more than the notion that he might one day subside into normality (as he would have seen it). The notion of developing any stable sense of self at all filled him with a kind of perverse quasi-monastic revulsion. "When I have sex with someone, I forget who I am," he ooce said. "For a minute I forget I'm even human."

There is a peculiar form of spiritual ambition here. The libertine wanted, more than anything else, to escape ordinary, quotidian existence. His truest desire was the desire for self-transcendence.

Exhibition continues to 17 November, daily 10am-6pm (8pm Tues / Wed), Hayward Gallery, South Bank Centre,

'Now,' said a queenly man accompanied by a trio of hippy dresses, 'wash your hands'

hoops to prove they're unsheckable. The only hint of controversy at Wednesday's private view was over how to pronounce Mapplethorpe's name. Two men engaged in heated debate as they scaled the Hayward ramp beneath a line of the artist's portraits. "It's May-pul-thorpe." "If it's May-pul-thorpe, how come it's got two Ps?" They passed a shiny purple suit holding court with three younger shiny grey suits. "I always prefer," he was saying, "to look at them at home, with my feet up and a nice glass of wine."

home, with my feet up and a nice gass to wine.

What was strange about this particular shindig was how muted the noise levels were. Private views are usually loud, brightly coloured affairs: the art world loves to talk, and generally blees to do it loudly. Not so beneath these looming images: the sight of so many enormous penises in various states of immescence didn't actually rob the onlookers of words, but seemed to make them wish to voice their reactions more quietly. There was a certain amount of the old meet-and-greet in evidence, but it was done without the usual accompaniment of flamboyant kisses and cries of delight. The perverse effect of all this sex on the walls was to make the people present unwilling to touch one another.

people present unwant to touch our anomal the more This effect became more pronounced around the more disturbing images. Take the picture of Lisa Lyon, a torso shot in which the subject is slathered in mud and sports an absurdly lush pubic wig. At least, I think it's a wig. Maybe the six-inch-long hair is real. "What," asked a woman with a German accent, "is that supposed to be, in the mud?" Her

companion walked over to the label at the end of the row, misread it and came back, "It's a flower," he said. "Ah," the woman nodded. "Of course."

Nearby, a case containing the notorious X Portfolio pictures attracted slightly aghast attention. Here, the famous "fisting" shot was cleverly, if disturbingly, displayed above a still life of a vase of gypsophila. It's a strange picture: from a distance you can't really see what you're looking at – it could be a rather quirky take on a Norman Foster building, or a shot of sand dimes. The faces of the women were pictures in themselves as they recognised what they were seeing and turned away in Munchian vignettes of souls in hell – eyes bulging, mouths open, chins drawn in. The men tended to respond by bursting out laughing. "Now," said a queenly man accompanied by a trio of hippy dresses, "wash your hands." A young woman glanced shyly at the man beside her – I wouldn't recommend this exhibition as first-date territory. "Do you think," she said, "they have to practise a lot to be able to do that?" A stout gent in a blazer walked away from the case. "Of course," he was saying, "Mapplethorpe was homosexual, you know Obsessed with the... sexual function."

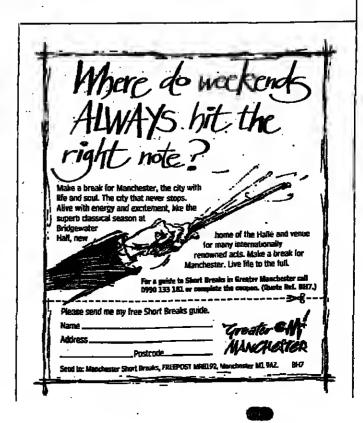
with the ... sexual innerion."

Around a corner, one was presented with the delightful spectacle of a Modern Parent getting her comeuppance. You know Modern Parents: they have multiple body-piercing, take their children with them wherever they go, and insist on full and frank discussion of everything. This particular specimen had lost one child, who was slumped against a wall with a look of pure disdain on his face. Her daughter

walked studiously up a line of portraits and came to a stop in front of two sado-masochistic scenes. "Mununy," she said loudly, "why is he doing that?" Modern Parent peered, recoiled and said something palliative. "But, Mununy," her voice rose another couple of hundred decibels, "he's peeing into that man's mouth." "Um... Oh, look," said Modern Parent, "have you seen these lovely flowers?"

Two pictures up, and at last there was something of an explosion. "Jeez," cried a woman, "that is so obscene. If's so disgusting. Oh, that's horrible." Whoopee, I thought, at last a bit of the much-hyped controversy. I glamced at the picture at which she was gesturing as she spluttered. It was a portrait of Arnold Schwarzenegger, clad in bathing trunks, "God," she continued, "look at those arms. The man's a freak of nature. That is so ugly." Diagonally below was a shot of a smirking Schliffer with a luge of anobscenity case a few years ago codenamed Operation Spanner. The police, apparently, chose that soubriquet because anyone who saw the pictures felt his muts tighten.

I don't know about the whole obscenity question. I have a feeling that a great deal of it is hot air. But one thing's for certain: Robert Mapplethorpe must pose a bit of a threat to the average relationship. Musing over the succincity named "Cock", in which a vast phallus is grasped by an equally vast fist, a man turned to his female companion. "A fine figure of a penis, that one," be said. "Minm," she replied enthusiastically. "It is." Her face bore that sort of dreamy expression one associates with too much ice-cream.



Obscure objects of sado-masochistic desire

There is something unintentionally disturbing about Harold Pinter's weaving of the political with the personal in 'Ashes to Ashes'. Paul Taylor has an unhappy hour

ou know where you are with Harold Pinter - in the sense that you can rest assured you won't know precisely where you are. Ashes to Ashes, his new play, is set in a room that seems bent on not giving anything away. A perfect riot of beige, it has all the anonymity of hotel accommodation with its transfer of the second of the tion, with its two beige armchairs, two beige tables, and two beige lampshades. If it weren't for the large domestic window, you'd be looking round for the beige mini-bar.

We catch the fortysomething couple who live here in the middle of a charged compensation.

here in the middle of a charged conversation. Badgered with insistent questions by her current partner, Devlin (Stephen Rea), Lindsay Duncan's Rebecca is describing a sado-masochistic ritual she used to engage in with a former, unnamed lover who would make her kiss his fist and then ask him to put his hand round her throat. In her account of this practice, the difference between compulsion and voluntary compliance gets oddly hlurred, just as the relationship we are watching on stage, though it's evidently between long-term intimates, has a sinister smack of that between interrogator and prisoner.

Devlin's obsessive curiosity about his partner's erotic past and Rebecca's use of "subjective" memories in their power game is reminiscent of the situation in one of this author's finest plays, Old Times, re-scored here for two voices rather than three. But, in some of the rhetorical tactics and the references, there are also eeric reminders of the inquisitions Pinter dramatised in those short, sharp, shock politi-cal plays One for the Road, Mountain Language and The New World Order.

This index-linking in Ashes to Ashes between the private and public worlds becomes more explicit when Rebecca recalls having been taken by her ex-lover to see a sinister-sounding factory where a cap-doffing, intimidated workforce are the obedient vassals of unbenevolent despotism. My colleague Michael Billington's wonderfully well-informed and absorbing book *The Life and Work of Harold Pinter reveals* that one of the influences on the play is Gitta Sereny's brilliant



Stephen Rea and Lindsay Duncan: the Irish filt raises the temperature, the vacant looks intrigue, but something isn't quite right

biography of Albert Speer, Hitler's Minister for Armaments and Munitions from 1942. The image in that book of the Nazi slave-labour factories, which had only primitive privies overflowing with shit, made a strong impression on

unable to find a bathroom during her visit. The play does not specify where the factory was. Gradually, though, as we hear of such atrocities as babies being torn from the arms of scream-

the dramatist and it finds its way into Ashes to

Ashes, we learn, in Rebecca's memory of being

ing mothers on railway platforms, the Holocaust seems to be more explicitly invoked. Indeed, if Sereny's hiography is an influence, an infinitely less elevated work struck me as a possible and embarrassing analogue: Sophie's Choice. I say that not just because, towards the climax of the piece, Rebecca has a dreamlike "recollection" of handing over ber haby during deportation to a man in authority and of never seeing it again. A more worrying similarity is the connection the play makes between sado-masochistic sexual vio-

lence in a private relationship and the brutalities inflicted in a totalitarian state - the one type of

fascism a reflection of the other. If such an equivalence exists, this play does not persuade me of it. As for the suggestion that all of this could easily happen in Britain -Rebecca tells the vision she had while looking out of a window in Dorset and of seeing guides shepherding crowds of people to their deaths in the sea - I found myself worrying how these mooted comparabilities might strike someone

actually living in a totalitarian regime or, indeed, a Holocaust survivor.

Pinter's production takes about an hour, but the pace of this very static piece is often agonis-ingly slow (particularly in a passage where Rebecca's words are given a ghostly echo). Lindsay Duncan shifts skilfully between a kind of tranced remoteness and sly cat-and-mouse game tactics with her recollections. But, to my ear, the slight Irish lilt with which Stephen Rea delivers his lines dissipates the menace and defensiveness written iuto their rhythm.

As with much of later Pinter, you may feel at once short-changed and over-stuffed. A niggardly number of details are laden with a sti-fling weight of latent significance and the portentous thud with which clues are dropped into the proceedings is almost comic, as when Rebecca makes sudden mention of "a bundle" (eventually to be revealed as a haby). The cou-ple's power-struggle sparring over words and meanings – whether it makes sense, say, to refer to "a perfectly innocent pen" – often comes across as tired self-parody.

Emerging from a production of The Birthday Party. I once heard a woman saying to her companion: "I wonder if Meg ever realises that Stanley isn't coming back." The more natural query would be to wonder when she realises this. Pinter's plays are, like rituals, so hermetically self-sufficient that they don't invite normal speculation as to the future fate of their characters. Ashes to Ashes ends enigmatically with Rebecca perhaps having learnt, through imaginative dentification with the suffering of others, the power to resist Devlin's attempts to revive the sado-masochistic practices of her ex-lover. It reflects badly, either on me or on Ashes to Ashes, that my concern about what would happen to them ended the moment the play did.

In Wednesday's paper, I was quoted as saying that I had a Harold Pinter problem. This latest piece, does not, I'm afraid, help me solve it.

To 26 Oct. Royal Court Theatre Upstairs at the Ambassadors, Booking: 0171-730 1745

sonator and a free meal. Determinedly

"in-caricature", the actors worked incred-

ibly hard, drawing on devised and richly detailed back-histories, mingling and flirt-ing with the crowd. Their gross overact-

ing didn't matter much (even at real wed-

dings no one seems able to resist hamming

it up) but their solicitousness in drawing you into their world got rather wearing. (In the toilet, I bad to chat to the groom's

around the room, most of the audience

TELEVISION Caroline in the City (C4)

Another American sitcom to show us who's comedy boss? Well, no, actually, says Jasper Rees

They say American sitcom knocks hrassy, pavement-clever girlfriends who Despite or perhaps because of her seven shades of wit out of its British counterpart. Boy, do they say that a go on to say is why. Sure, we all know that American scripts are densely colfrom one another, but somebow they would perceive as a weakness, American sitcom has made a source of

Take Caroline in the City, the latest arrival hreathlessly flagged by Channel 4 as the best new thing from America since the last best new thing. Once more, in the footprints of Cybill and Ellen, we have a single professional woman prone to romantic panic and low-esteem. As in Cybill, there's the

spits barbs from the touchline like "I hate to say I told you so. Well, actually, lot. Because comedy is a mercurial busi- I like saying that," As in Ellen, the heroness, and not something you can cor-ner off in a paragraph, what they rarely of spirit and fretful self-doubt.

laborative, that British comedy mutates manage to cordon off an area in which its characters into gargoyles, that over they can be themselves. This is where tered pensioner, about a pair of emotionally retarded males, about a suburban snob. American comedy seems content just to he - to be in a bar, in a blue-collar household or, in this case, a cartoonist's studio. The anchor of narrative has been hauled in, leaving the scripts free to drift unfettered around the map of human relationships,

Actually, Caroline in the City isn't quite the funniest import around.

cute victim's dimples, Caroline has boyfriend trouble. She's just split from the loathsome Del, but as she draws cartoons for his greetings card company, she can't escape seeing him. In part one, they both take new dates to their favourite restaurant. Del's, predictably, provokes a hoary array of cradle-snatch gags. Caroline's, more interthere there's a featherlight touch we galumphingly fail to replicate. But it here, there's this craving for sitcom to who steps into the breach to help her

> With that droaning android speech earlifted from Frasier's brother Niles and ex-wife Lilith, Richard is the weak link in the chain of credibility. He and Caroline are plainly going to spend the whole series flirting, but the script will have its work cut out to make the union look like anything other than a marriage of opposites arranged for comic purposes. A steal, in other words, from a British sitcom.

THEATRE Joey and Gina's Wedding, Café Royal, London

The matrimonial celebration where the audience simply has to join in the fun. By Liese Spencer

he address on the invitation for Joey and Gina's Wedding was the Cafe Royal, but any bopes of a swanky society wedding began to fade as we huddled in the driz-zle outside a dark side-entrance. After a few minutes, we were ushered down to a hasement and subjected to three hours of hyper-active, interactive theatre.

Looking back, there were warning signs. The publicity note: "If you're at the wedding... you're part of the action!" for one. But it was too late: bere we were Knight and his wife Dolly. Suddenly, everywhere there were "relatives" shaking your hand. Here was Johnny, the bald best man and his brother Vinnie, Lady Joy Wainright, cousin of the bride and Mrs Elizabeth Granata, the hride's mother.

The nuptials got under way with an introductory speech from Father Francis McCarthy, a priest from the Church of Our Lady of the Serious Wounds. We were gathered together to celebrate the union

of Gina, a cockney girl from Bethnal a catering circus led by an Elvis imper-Green and Joey, the perma-tanned offspring of a family of Chicago hoods. There were late arrivals and comic antics with the candles, speeches and songs. The Bethnal Green dynasty clashed with the Chicagoans. Actors in pimp suits drew improvisational inspiration from Scorsese, women in sequinned shoulder pads paid tribute to Pat from EastEnders.

As Hugh Grant will tell you, weddings, with their silly bats and family feuds, offer Italian-American grandmother.) There costume drama. The social and religious ritual makes for a ready-made theatre that follows conventions as closely determined as Greek tragedy. Like natural disasters, they open old wounds and reveal the true character of various players, arranged in a strict hierarchy of importance from the blood relative leads to gate-crashing hitpart players. They come with a pop soundtrack and lashings of sentimentality.

This matrimonial Rocky Horror Show has a steely, smiling Disney-World insistence on the veracity of its fiction. It's the perfect party for people who fancy letting their hair down after a hard week at work, hut need to be given some friends and shown how to do it.

didn't seem to care.



The Bacardi family enjoys wealth, glamour and a spectacularly successful global business. So why is this proud Cuban dynasty tearing itself apart? John Carlin reports on an unseemly feud

He's one of Britain's richest men, but Phil Collins still considers himself 'an ordinary bloke'. Cole Moreton is granted an unusually frank interview

IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



Andrew Bergman directs his own adaptation of Carl Hillason's thriller in which Derni Moore fights for the custody of her child, needs a job and thus becomes a stripper falling foul of obsessive right-winger Burt Reynolds.

The BBC leads off its Autumn series with Anthony Thomas's £10m eightpart drama about empire builder and wealthy adventurer Cecil Rhodes with Martin Shaw (and son), Neil Pearson, Ken Stott and Frances Barber.

Thomas Sutcliffe was pleasantly surprised by "an African Western

Sir Peter Hall returns to the National to direct Sophocles's tragedies Oedipus Rex and Oedipus at Colonus in Ranjit Bolt's translation with Alan Howard, Suzanne Bertish and a masked ensemble company.

view

EXCELLENT

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GOOD

₫

POOR

A

DEADLY

Ryan Gilbey pointed to Moore's real-life daughter playing 'a girl traumatised by seeing her mother strip. Not helf as disturbing as seeing her act." A few more clothes and she could scoop the cup for creative dancing at any village half testival," judged the FT. "Totally characte," observed the Standard. everage," signed the Guardian. "Dire," spectement Time Out, "I didn't think I'd

Cert 15, 117 minutes. On general

complete with natural disasters, barroom face-offs, lynch mobs and the frontier spirit." "Time and money well spent ... had epic stamped all over it, applauded the Mirror. "An emotionally compelling performance from Shaw, approved Time Out. "The narrative machinery is creaky," worried the Guardian. "This is our licence fee we are watching sinking like the Titanic," admonished the Telegraph. "Nothing mattered very much; all events were just history," winced the Times.

Sundays, 9pm BBCI with repeats on Saturdays, BBC2.

In repertoire at the Olivier, National Theatre, London SEI (0171-928 2252)

Paul Taylor found it memorable. "Alan Howard's climbing tenor is the perfect

instrument for Oedipus." "Dramatically

thrilling and spiritually terrifying," heralded the Telegraph. "Superb... the

stage pictures are overpowering ... the plays come alive, sang the Guardian. Gripping... Sophocles's moral grandeur

with Sophocles's surpassing humanity, saluted the Times. The hairs on the

back of my neck never stood up,

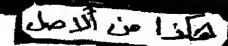
ma cool," pooh-poohed the Sta

mounted the Express. "I doubt if our time will see a superior version."

remarked the Mail on Sunday, "Leaves

The accents will keep French and Saunders in otherwise, a promising blend of adventure and

Stylised and staggering.



Ploughing the sands of opposition

A Labour leader tries to drag his party into the 20th century. Sounds familiar? John Campbell reads a political life with alarming modern parallels

Hugh Gaitskell by Brian Brivati, Richard Cohen Books, £25

nen Hugh Gaitskell died suddenly, of rare blood infection in January 1963, he was as extravagantly mnurned as President Kennedy later the same year. To his admirers be was a politician quite out of the ordinary, a leader of vision and integrity from whose loss the Labour party has never recovered. But the contemporary eulogies and the idealised might-bave-beens of his disciples should not eclipse the fact that Labour's best-loved leader was also its best-hated. When he died, Gaitskell seemed to be on the verge of leading the party back to power after three lnng Parliaments in the wilderness. But many - with good reason -blamed him for precipitating the party into opposition in the first place by deliberately pro-

resignation of Nye Bevan from the Attlee Government in 1951, opening a traumatic split which arguably never healed. By 1963 Bevan was dead and Gaitskell had almost put the party back tngether on his own terms. But the old Bevanites greeted his sudden removal with ill-concealed delight. As Richard Crossman noted in his diary: "Where there's death there's hope." It was Harold Wilson whn snatched up Gaitskell's prize.

For years the feud remained too bitter to be written about in any hut the most partisan terms. Philip Williams's official hiography of Gaitskell, published in 1979, was a work nf almost Victorian piety, a hlow-by-blow rejoinder to Michael Foot's heroic hagiography of Bevan. Some years ago. I attempted a more objective view of Bevan; now Brian Brivati has done the same for Gaitskell. It is an excellent and timely book - thorough, scholarly and halanced. From a post-Thatcherite perspective the differences between Gaitskell and Bevan apparently so fundamental at the time - shrink to questions of emphasis and timing, even their temperaments were not so different as their public personalities suggested. If Bevan was, in the immortal terms of 1066 and All That, "romantic hut wrong," Gaitskell turns out to have been not "repulsive hut right" hut, on the contrary, scarcely less romantic and just as wrong. Both were, in their different ways, unapologetic socialists. Consequently, hoth appear today as political dinosaurs.

There is no more thankless joh in modern politics than Leader of the Opposition. By the same token Leaders of the Opposition make thankless subjects for hiography. The arguments of opposition acquire meaning only when they can be seen as the groundwork for real policies to come. Butler's recasting of Tory policy after 1945 laid the foundations for the Conservative hegemony of the 1950s; the seeds of Heath's But the wranglings of oppositions which never extent of his revisionism. Gaitskell thought it smokescreen. In this respect Bevan and become widely shared only in the last five years. Thirty years is a very lung time in politics.



the 1959 Labour Party Conference

come to power are matters of academic interest only. Cheated of Downing Street, Gaitskell is fated to go down in history paired with Neil Kinnock, the only other modern leader to have ploughed the sands of opposition for even longer; nine years to Gaitskell's eight. Brivati makes a good joh of analysing Gaitskell's internal hattles without getting drawn into Williams's excessive detail. But like Gaitskell's life, his book inevitably lacks a climax.

Gaitskell fought different sections of his party on three major issues between 1955 and 1962. First he set out to modify Labour's fundamentalist commitment to wholesale nationalisation by proposing to revise Clause 4 of the party constitution. The Left's atavistic fury at of moral revulsion; on the other patriotically, failure and Mrs Thatcher's success can be his daring to touch the ark of their socialist in terms of national pride and influence. Talk clearly traced to their years of preparation. covenant, however, greatly exaggerated the of working for multilateral disarmament was a anticipated by 30 years concerns which have underlines how utterly the world has changed.

electorally foolish, as well as intellectually dishonest, to pretend that it wanted to nationalise "every pub and garage" in the country; yet he still envisaged a substantially centralised econ-omy under close public control. With Tony Crosland he believed that modern capitalism had made the question of ownership redundant; hut as much as Bevan he took as axiomatic the

superiority of planning over markets.
Secondly, he fought the left over nuclear weapons. Despite the second coming of CND in the 1980s, these arguments too seem utterly obsolete today. It is not that there was not, and is not still, a case against nuclear deterrence. But it was argued on one side emotionally, in terms

Gaitskell were at one, Bevan with his "naked into the conference chamber" speech in 1957, Gaitskell with his "fight and fight again" in 1960. Gaitskell's victory mattered in terms of Labour's electoral credibility, as even Kinnock was ultimately forced to recognise. But all that sound and fury, all those passionate unilateralist resolutions and tortuously brokered compromises, made no real difference to anything

Finally, three months hefore his death, Gaitskell delighted his enemies and dismayed his friends by coming out decisively against Britain joining the EEC. Of his three battles, this is the only one which remains a live issue: his warning that British entry would mean "the end of a thousand years of history" actually

The problem is that, as Dora Gaitskell noted in 1962, "The wrong people are clapping." In 1962 it was the left which applanded him; today it is the Tory right which hails his prescience, while his own party has come round to welcoming European integration. The whirligig of time hreeds strange ironies.

So what remains? Very little, as Brivati sadly admits. From Wilson and Callaghan to Kinnock and Blair, Labour has steadily abandoned everything Gaitskell would have recognised as socialism. Attempts to paint Blair as a new Gaitskell are wide of the mark. Politically, economically and culturally, Gaitskell's assumptions and values have simply ceased to hold: "New Labour" is an explicitly capitalist party. Aside from its other merits, Brivati's book

Gilded creatures on silver salvers

Madonna can't compete with the babes of the Moulin Rouge. Michael Arditti reports

Showgirls by Andrea Stuart, Cape, £18.99

ature never fashioned/a flower so fair" runs a tribute to the archetypal showgirl in Stephen Sondheim's bitter-sweet musical Follies. And yet to paraphrase Mae West, one of the prime exemplars in Andrea. Stuart's fascinating study of the showgirl-phemonenon, Nature had nothing to do with it.

The showgirl represents the triumph of artifice over both Nature and Art. In our contemporary cultural malaise where to distinguish between high and low art is regarded as invidious, one practical distinction is that, unlike high art which is studied for its own intrinsic value, low art is studied for what it says about the world. Thus Stuart presents the showgirl as a symbol of the major social changes of the late 19th and early 20th century. Happily, she does so with a wil and elegance that suit her subject.

Service of the servic

Stuart identifies the heyday of the showgirl as running from the 1880s to the 1930s and her spiritual hume as Paris, No one who sets Lautrec's paintings of the Moulin Rouge against Sickert's of London music halls can dispute her decision to devote the bulk of her book to the gilded creatures who entranced the French capital: Mistinguett. Liane de Pougy, Colette, Josephine Baker and the female impersonator cum acrobat, Barbette. Even Mariene Dietrich chose Paris as the place to reinvent herself as a stage performer in the Fifties, wearing facelifting surgical steel needles embedded in her scalp that resemble a modern

equivalent of the crown of thorns. Each performer is examined on her own terms; but certain themes unite them. Most crucial is the showgirl's association with sexual license. From the start, the prostitute was her second cousin and, at times, her second self. In Paris, the Opera was the city's most exclusive brothel where members of myth that Baker both fuelled and the lockey Club staged orgies in which ballet-girls were served up on silver salvers. Mistinguett's crowning performance was in the Apache Dance, a pas-de-deux for prostitute and pimp. The women themselves were thought to have appetites as extravagant as Capote and Camus, with charming



Mistinguett: her lover, Colette, wore a golden dog-tag inscribed 'I belong to Missy'

their costumes - not without reason in anecdotes, my own favourite being of the case or Liane de Pougy who publicly horsewhipped one lover and made his girls on a daily diet of cream, peas, another crawl the length of the Champs Elysees, barking, to prove his and a weekly box of chocolates.

Sexual alture was enhanced by hints of exoticism. Colette, who was reputed to wear a golden dog-tag inscribed "I to Las Vegas), she left behind crude versions of herself such as Madnnna and RuPaul Indeed, Madonna's career dabhled in lesbianism, whilst a potent racial element was introduce by Josephine Baker, who received 40,000 marriage proposals and was reviled as a "danger to civilisation". Stuart notes the popular belief in black women's unhridled sexuality, dating from the exploitation of Saartje Baartman, "the Hottentot Venus", whose humiliations extended after death when her pudenda were cut off and displayed in the Musée de L'homme. This was a subverted.

Showgirls is both entertaining and erudite, an enticing blend of stage and street history and popular hiography. It mixes pertinent comment from writers such as Flaubert and Baudelaire,

C.B. Cochran's attempts to fatten up fresh milk, butter and wholemeal bread

If the traditional showgirl failed to survive the Second World War (when, as one wag quipped, she died and went to date amounts to a potted history of the showgirl, with her Marilyn phrase. her Marlene phrase, her flirtation with prostitution, her adoption of lesbianism and even her book Sex (which shares a title with Mae West's vilified play).
Madonna's Sex, which with its hard-

core s/m imagery goes about as far as the mainstream showgirl can go, poses the question "what happens to the showgirl when she has nothing left to show?" One answer would seem to be that she starts lap-dancing at Stringfellow's, where last month a Kuwaiti prince is reputed to have spent £6,000 m a night on girls. Mistinguett, who enjoyed a rather more decorous affair with Edward VII, must be turning in

Xanadu in N.W.2.

Richard Davenport-Hines finds hints of Milton, Pope and Martin Amis in T.S.Eliot's early scribbles

Inventions of the March Hare: Poems 1909-1917 by T.S.Eliot, edited by Christopher Ricks, Faber, £30

/// hen you were a tiny boy learning to talk," Eliot's eldest sister Ada wrote in her last letter, when thing you were trying to say. I used to answer you in kind, saying nothing yet conversing with you as we sat side hy side on the stairs." With the publication for the first time of a notebook of Eliot's earliest poems, mostly written in the years when be was living in France and England as a graduate student in philosophy, one can see with exciting new clarity the progression of the inarticulate toddler in Missouri into the author of that revolutionary masterpiece, The Waste Land. It is, quite simply, splendid to have Inven-tions of the March Hare and to trace the maturing of Eliot's gift for making unfor-gettable cadences from the rhythm of

sentences. Still, the juvenilia of a great poet always makes dodgy reading. Early, unpublished work can be fascinating in showing the borrowings, parallels, allusions and echoes which form a young poet's ideas. With guidance from a good editor, it is intriguing to discover the ways in which the maturer poet uses the early work as a source of good ideas to be refined and honed. But the publication of juvenilia provides the opportunity for scholarly sleuthing rather than the pleasure of great poetry. Juvenile poems are seldom better than distinguished failures and many are boring or dud. They are best compared with the doodlings of a great artist, essential preliminaries which can be playful, exploratory, clumsy or portentous. Though these early Elint poems are full of technical and buman interest, none of them rival the later work which he chose to collect and republish.

The poet in the making is best glimpsed in such newly published experiments as "Dn I know bow I feel? Do I know what I think?" This poem begins with restless, ominous lines prefiguring some of the stringer passages in "Prufrock" and "Portrait of a Lady", raises an air of stifled horror and is on the verge of great effects hefore collapsing into commonplace adolescent angst. The poetic sequence entitled

"Debate between the Body and Soul" is ment store, ending on a characteristic a similar mixture of catchy first sound- note of self-lacerating pessimism: ings for "The Waste Land" and clumsy dying of cancer in 1943, "you used to conceits - there is a particularly ugly passound the rhythm of sentences without sage ahout a syphilitic spider which shaping words—the ups and downs of the sounds more guilty and puritanical than

intended. "My best poems", Eliot told I.A. Richards in 1931, "are possibly those which evoke the greatest number of variety and interpretations surprising to myself." It is a mark of his immature work that when he is most ambitious, straining to widen the variety of possible inter- Eliot could be. pretations by his readers, be seems laboured and self-conscious, as in "Oh little voices of the throats of men". By contrast one of the simplest poems in Inventions of the March Hare is also one of the most successful. "Suppressed Complex' describes a woman frightened in bed at night by a shadow in the corner of her room. It is narrated by a man who seems to be her coldly ironic lover hut is revealed in the last line to be a

Eliot wrote of Blake, "his early poems show what the poems of a boy of genius ought to show, immense power of assimilation," and by this criterion, Inventions of the March Hare is a superb success. He had a prodigious memory for words and feelings, and by the age of 21 could unify and enrich the ideas of nther artists. "The poet's mind," he once wrote, "is a receptacle for seizing and storing up numberless feelings, phrases, images, which remain there until all the particles which can unite to form a new compound are there together."

Arguably, eight despondent lines entitled "In the Department Store" achieve the most memorable effect in this new collectinn. The chief idea for the poem derived from a superb shart story, "In the Cage" by Henry James, but there are phrases referring to a painting of Whistler's, and to lines from Gautier, Miltnn, Pope, Arthur Hugh Clough. Bertrand Russell and Byron. Christopher Ricks devotes four pages to annotating these sources in a clear, unpedantic way but leaves his readers to form their own conclusions on the mood of the poem. It is a very comfortless affair ahout a woman glimpsed in a depart- in NW2.

Man's life is powerless and brief and It is not possible for me to make her

The contrast with Auden's "In Schraffts" - annther account of a casually glimpsed woman, whose self-sufficient smile evokes a beatific happiness - shows just how implacably gloomy

There is clowning in a few poems, notably "The Triumph of Bullshit" and the pornographic Colombo and Bolo sequence, featuring a cabin-boy called Orlandino, who seems to have been time-warped from a patriotic Victorian melodrama into a Martin Amis novel ("A child of upright character/... 'Fuck Spiders' was his chief remark"). But their overall feeling is nf the sufficiency of human pleasure and the puniness of buman emotional powers.

Eliot does not show nff, but nne is constantly reminded of the power and purity of his intellect. During the period nf these poems he indeed toyed with the idea of giving up English and writing in French. The examples of his bilingualism printed by Ricks – including a new French poem "Petit Epitre" – show an accomplishment in both accomplishment in both languages

which is exceptional. On his first visit to Lundon in 1911 Eliot made a pilgrimage to Cricklewood. As be was leaving, an Englishman at his botel asked, "Where is Cricklewood?", and being shown on the map, flashed out in exasperation, "but why go to Cricklewood?" Eliot had a triumphant retort: "There is nn reason." The nighttime picnic described in one of these poems - "it's utterly illngical/ nur making such a start" - has the same point and the same pointlessness as his trip to Cricklewood. Together the day-trip and the poems show what was so admirable abnut young Eliot. He had great moral courage - continuously training and stretching his reasoning intelligence even though he believed "there is no reason" – and the nriginality to find Xanadu

know about the books you meant to read

MIDNIGHT'S CHILDREN by Salman Rushdie (1981)

Plot: The Arabian Nights meets Tristram Shandy to produce a fantasia on recent Indian history.

Saleem is born on the stroke of midnight, 15th August 1947: the exact moment of Indian independence.

His life is a fairy-tale. He is raised by rich Muslims who are not his parents. Their son, Shiva, is swapped for Saleem at hirth.; he is brought up in poverty, while Saleem is doted upon. Independence, Partition, politics

and internecine war are played out between contemplative Salcem and pro-active Shiva. Saleem's family loses money. Shiva becomes a savage military officer. Shiva impregnates Parvati the witch. Saleem marries her as she gives hirth to a child "born to a father wbo was not a father."

Finally, Saleem is made a political prisoner and is forced to have a vasectomy. Major Sbiva. also imprisoned, is shot arbitrarily.

Theme: India seethes with chaos: no moral norms appear to operate and the individual is offered the alternatives of resignation or

Style: The prose is rich and spicy: one moment poetically symbolic il can slide into farce or tragedy.

Chief strengths: One of the few recent novels in English to tackle an cnormous theme head on, and cmerge triumphant.

Chief weaknesses: Rushdie's love of words teeters into self-indulgence. There are moments when the novel is becalmed in adjectival doldrums.

What they thought of it then: In India, the book was treated with scepticism. The "history" appeared wilfully distorted. The ruling Gandhi family were very cross indeed and Rajiv was one of the first 10 han Satanic Verses.

In the UK the book made Rushdie's name. It woo the Booker aod 32,000 hardbacks were sold.

What we think of it now: In 1993, it was voted the best of the Bookers.

Responsible for: Forcing British readers to contemplate the insularity of British fiction.

Adding to the gaiety of nations

Peter Parker on the life of a high-camp rebel at the heart of the 18th-century Establishment

Horace Walpole: The Great Outsider by Timothy Mowl, John Murray, £19.99

t is an interesting fact that a num-her of the principal monuments of the 18th-ceotury Gothic revival were the products of what might be called a bomosexual sensibility: M.G. Lewis's The Monk; William Beckford's Vathek and Fonthill Abbey; and Horace Walpole's The Castle of Otranto and Strawberry Hill. The extravagant, gossipy, effeminate Walpole gave every appearance of being a "Finger-twirler" (the 18th century's "decent word for Sodomite"), but his great 20th century champion and editor, Wilmarth Lewis, insisted that Walpole was entirely sexless. In order to make this claim, Lewis was obliged to explain away a number of Walpole's love letters to men, either as unfortunate examples of the "unmanly abandon" with which men of the period expressed themselves. or - in one absurd case - as "written in the character of one of the mistresses" of Lord Lincoln.

According to Timothy Mowl's genuinely revelatory hiography, Walpole had no need to adopt the persona of one of Lincoln's lovers. The two men bad conducted a passionate affair, largely on the continent, which ended only when Lincoln was married off for dynastic reasons. Furthermore, Walpole's circle included a large oumber of homosexual men several of whom twirled rather more than their fingers. All this would be mere fascinating tittle-tattle were it not for the fact that Walpole was a highly influential figure, not only during his lifetime, hut posthu-mously, as the author of two volumes of memoirs about the reigns of George I and 11 and an enormous oumber of letters, eventually published in 48 volumes. These books give a persuasively

which has coloured the accounts of later historians, without being nearly as objective as it pretends. Mowl contends, for example, that far from being the "time-serving old bumbler" he appears in Walpole's memoirs the much maligned Duke of Newcastle was "one of the greatest Prime ministers of the 18th century". The reason Walpole ridiculed the Duke was that Newcastle was the uncle of Walpole's beloved Lincoln and had been responsible for bringing his wayward nephew to bet-erosexual heel. Thus is history rewritten as revenge Another of Walpole's great loves was

his cousio Heory Cooway, whose advancement he successfully managed. Despite an inglorious military career and no very great political gifts, Conway rose through Walpole's influence to high government office. Walpole was the son of a prime minister and served as an MP, but he preferred scheming to direct political action, and became a sort of eminence rose. The combination of his patronage of Conway and his scurrilous pamphleteering nearly put an end to his career when he was "outed", as Mowl puts it, by a political enemy. He survived the scandal, however, to publish the hugely popular Ovanto and throw open Strawberry

Hill to the public. Mowl maintains quite rightly that Walpole's homosexuality is crucial to any proper understanding of the man's life and work. His determinedly forth-right approach to the subject, while laudable in theory, in practice leads to some problems of register and a oumber of unwise generalisations. Referring to John Chute, one of the so-called "Committee of Taste" responsible for lively chronicle of the 18th-century, one the building of Strawberry Hill, as a about architecture. True High Camp gaiety of the nation. The most sympa-



fair enough, but to conjure up the dubi-

ous image of "a typical 'queer's victim"

seems unfortunate and, in the context

likely to be bisexual is oot, alas, tenable,

oor is it true that "the plain are usu-

ally normal in their sexual proclivities".

rectness", but what we have here rep-

resents a failure of common sense.

"defiantly affected old queen" seems always has an underlying seriousness," one of Isherwood's characters explains. "You're not making fan of it; you're making fun out of it. You're express-

beside the point. Mowl's airy assertion ing what's basically serious to you in terms of artifice and elegance." Walthat "oustandingly beautiful men" are pole's life, his writing and his building projects exemplify high camp, or what Mowl calls "deviant aesthetics". These aesthetics proved highly influential, Mowl warns us against "political corpopularising both the Gothic govel and an eclectic style of architecture later

Of Gothic revivalism, Mowl writes embraced by the Victorians. In his opening sentence, Mowl warns that Walpole was not "in any normal that, while "there was oo covert coospiracy to subvert wholesome classical design", a style, dependent upon elabsense, a pleasant and acceptable perorate ornamentation "may have had a soo". He is oevertheless one who has particular attraction for homosexuexerted a "dubious fascinatioo" over als". He attempts to illustrate this his biographer. That fascination has point by listing a number of "bachelor" architects involved in the revival (not produced a lively and absorbing book, the flaws of which are outweighed by all of them-homosexual), but the real its considerable merits. Half intrigued, poiot is that, in Christopher Isherhalf appalled, Mowl describes a life wood's famous formulation in The . that was far from exemplary, but which World in the Evening, Gothic is camp certainly added, in every sense, to the

thetic person in the book is poor besotted Thomas Gray whom Walpole treated abominably. The irony is that had Walpole behaved any better, Gray would oot have become a melancholic and written his famous elegy, which Walpole himself published by way of reparation.

Mowl's subtitle is well chosen. Walpole was "a potent rebel in the heart of a oation's establishment", to which he was linked by his family but from which he was distanced by his oature. There are parallels here with that other great rebel whose work was inextricably linked with his sexuality, Oscar Wilde. As with Wilde, it was Walpole's equivocal relationship with the society through which he so observantly moved that made him such a good commentator on its fashions and follies. He had a stronger sense of selfpreservatioo than Wilde, however, and he ended his days doting upon small dogs, rather than feasting with panthers; a happy ending of sorts.

Educating Archie

Did Cary Grant know John Major's dad? Christopher Bray investigates

Cary Grant by Graham McCann, Fourth Estate, £16.99

Jell, well, well. Earlier biographies of Cary Grant have cast aspersions on his sexuality and his less than gallant treatment of women. But Graham McCann has come up with the foulest defamation yet. "It is, in fact, oot entirely unlikely that at some point during [his residence in Brixton] Archie Leach may have come into contact with Tom Major-Ball." That's right: Cary Grant may have been matey with John Major's dad.

For those of us who have long thought of Grant as a platonic essence far removed from our everyday dust and drudge, such worldly theorising may be hard to swallow. But there is no gainsaying the fact that, like the Prime Minister's father, Cary Grant once carned his living as a circus act. At a wild guess, Cary was probably the more graceful per-former under the big top.

Cary Grant was probably the silver screen's most graceful man. There is a

moment, early in To Catch A Thief, when Grant stands immobile for a half-minute, one leg casually locked straight, the other placed gently forward, bending ever so slightly at the knee - for all the world like Michelangelo's David. And the point is that Grant isn't posing. The embodi-ment of democratic class, Cary slipped easily into stances like that.

He slipped into clothes too. Nobody ever wore a suit quite like Cary Grant.
Who would not kill for the dove-grey
two-piece he wears throughout North By
Northwest, Hitchcock's two-and-a-halfbour dressing-down of Grant's smugly superior Madison Avenue man. Attacked by a crop duster, force-fed a bottle of bourbon, sent hurtling down a mountainous coastal road, falling off Mount Rushmore: Grant went through hell in that movie. He deserved it.

What Hitchcock had spotted in Grant is something critics have only latterly caught up on: the maliciousness lurking beneath his veneer of charm. Look closely

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at a Grant love scene and notice that deadness in his gaze, that distancing rigidity, that immobility of visage: Grant looks more like a vampire about to sate his lusts than be does a lover about to caress. Suspicion, Grant's first movie with

Hitchcock, is built upon this schizo-phrenic persona. Is Grant a ne'er-dowell on the make? Has he married Joan Fontaine merely for her fortune? Is be planning to do ber in? In the original screenplay the answer was an emphatic yes, and Grant was only too bappy to go along with it. But the studio dictated that Cary Grant could never be a had guy and the movie ended up pulling its punches. Hitchcock and his star, however, were artists enough to stick with the original premise right up to the picture's absurd denouement. Grant's charmer is as vacuous and vain as any the movies have given us. It takes guts to play such a thoroughly bad lot - or was Grant aware that audiences were too busy swooning to criticise him? Probably be did. Unlike most actors, Grant was no dunderhead. He was the first star in Hollywood to go freelance. From his early thirties on, he ocver made a movie he didn't want to. He knew the image he wanted to pre-sent, and he was damned if he'd appear in movies that would undermine it.

That image - urbane, relaxed, effortlessly charming - bore little resemblance to his background. A chibald Leach was born in Bristol in 1904: noor working-class household. When as nine, his father had his mother cool. 'ted to an asylum. A couple of years later.

young Archie was thrown out of school (nobody seems to remember why) and apprenticed to a tumbling act. Next came the Brixton years, and then a tour of the US. Archie Leach was taken with the place and decided to hang around. Soon he was headed for Hollywood.

Like most fantasies, Cary Grant was born out of a desire to be rid of the past. His accent, clipped yet casual, was socially and geographically unplace-able. "Nobody talks like that!" Jack Lemmon says to a Grant-mimicking Tony Curtis in Some Like It Hot. Maybe so, but who can say they have not tried to? "Everybody wants to be Cary Grant," Grant once said. "Even I want to be Cary Grant," Perhaps that explains the personal archive he kept all his life - as if he couldn't believe what he'd become.

His rootlessness carried over into his work. Few and far between are the Grant movies where his character is given much in the way of background or family. When be is, in Howard Hawks's Monkey Business for example, the whole point of the movie is to question and undermine those ties. Only once, io None But The Lonely Heart, did Graot play a character with similar social origins to his own. It was a rare flop.

Graham McCann tells Grant's story well in this fine book. He has marshalled his sources well and produced a mar-vellous work of synthesis. As Hollywood hiographies go, it is a very good read. If you want one book on Cary Grant, then

The thinking man's musical linoleum

Edward Pearce tunes into the Third Programme

The Envy of the World: Fifty Years of the BBC Third Programme and Radio 3 by Humphrey Carpenter, Weidenfeld, £25

Third Programme - the earnest channel of the BBC is a topic at once exhilarating and melancholy, indis-pensable and insufferable, a thing created by the old shirt-fronted, nostrilarching BBC which was yet a better thing than the Murdoch-sensitive axis of John Birt, Mr Blobby and Chris Evans. Radio Three is an irritant and a delight. the Third a folk memory of remote and loftily announced ancient names: "Produced by Douglas Cleverdon, devised by D.G. Bridson, music written by R. Racine Fricker and performed by Nocl Racine Fricker and performed by Noel Mewton-Wood, parts played by Carleton Hobbes and Stephen Murray." On my Herbage and my Tiller long ago... Humphrey Carpenter, in a brief vacation from a busy life annoying the Church of England, has produced a history of an organism only 50 years old this year, but with all the archdeacons, factlyns and scandals you could ask for factions and scandals you could ask for. William Haley the ur-founder wrote a memorandum under the beading "Title": "Many suggestions have been made, simple and recondite: Arts Programme, Programme C, Droitwich Programme, Minerva Programme... I think we are oot likely to do better than to adopt the already publicly adopted The

Third Programme."

During a commercial panic at the rise of television in the late Fifties, it became "Network Three" and lost a lot of time. (Though not Radio Minerva, it flew by night, with its start put back to 8.00 pm). It also had drawn up for it a memo-randum of the hobbies and other useful scraps which could be substituted for Sir William's high culture, addressed to persons of taste, of intelligence and of education". The memo listed the fol-lowing as suitable subjects: "5. Deco-ration of walls/ floors/ cellings, i.e. mosaics, frescoes, murals, ctc. This might make three programmes. 6. Specialised cooking. 7. Indoor gardening. e.g. Window boxes, pot plants, Japan-

ese gardens etc." The BBC coming to terms with commerce is never a pretty sight. But for-tunately the Bonsai-and-cake-decoration period was a more interim between Haley's high culture (which no one in the Chris Evans era should deride) and

Dadio Three, Network Three, the the thinking man's musical linoleum of today. Perhaps Radio Three will be sold to Stagecoach and required to advertise hras and fish fingers, but as with Covent Garden, the friends of a public good have a way of rallying round, writing to the Times and getting non-accountancy treatment. The bankrupt, sterile Garden isn't worth the unfairness it enjoys, but some of us would pay a higher licence fee to have Tallis and Tippett or (a recent pleasure from Three) a sensitive documeotary play about the short sweet life of the English composer, Gerald

(What may undermine Radio Three as a music programme might just be the best small recording companies. If commerce can give you, as Naxos does, 17thcentury Portuguese liturgical music or the flute quartets of Fredrik Kuhlau -both delightful - for a fiver, it treads on the heels of Three.)

and gossipy, but agnostic. He charts neutrally the rise of William Glock and a regime of sub-Soviet prescriptions, of compulsory Boulez, non-optional Maxwell Davies. He also records the response to this of Hans Keller and Robert Simpson. Keller had written in 1956, of the avant-gardist claque, "they have never yet discovered a bad work written in it. Every single dodecaphoncy picce is praised for some reason or other, apply to Webern and you can't go wroog." Sir John Drummond at his last Last Night of the Proms, commanding a filling-jangler of random noise from Birtwistle before coming on stage to accept a piece of bent metal which he described as significant modcrn work, is the logical fulfilment of Keller's judgment and a reminder that nobody working for money would do anything so silly.

Simpson, a real composer, seot Glock a memo after a grotesque overun of a Maxwell Davies piece – "What kind of composer is it that can miscalculate the length of his own work by some 45%?" and discounting "an almost featureless mass of squashed Schoenberg". People had not left the half in shoals because of hizarre effects, he added. "It was pure tedium engendered by lack of invention and lack of genuine motion

that drove them out." It remains a sad illustration of the weakness of public service broadcasting that the Glock-andafter regime excluded so much and imposed so much from the 20th century and that Simpson, who had focused Bruckner and practically discovered Nielsen, walked away. Ironically, after a recorded cycle of Simpson's nine symphonies have been acclaimed, Radio 3 characteristically marked his 75th birthday with silence.

The avant-garde was made a magnificent monkey of in the brilliant drama series of the Fifties which, starting with A Very Great Man Indeed, was wrung from the tragic Henry Reed. He immortalised Elizabeth Lutyens, discordant in conversation and composition, as "Hilda Tablet", composer of the all-women feminist opera. Emily Butter. She nearly sued. A glorious memo on Reed's difficultness chunters "He On music, Carpenter is interesting is naturally lazy like most writers, finds working for the BBC the easiest way of making an income and takes a peculiarly malicious pleasure to writing as close to the deadline and to the decency line as he can...Oo the other hand, there is no doubt that over the past ten years. Reed has been the outstanding individual contributor to the

Third Programme...' But though the Third chuntered, it wasn't a bad old stick. The scientist Fred Hoyle who had fascinating things to say, had, after one talk on the Home Service, been delated. He must not be used again, the science editor bad written, because of his strong Yorkshire accent. Peter Laslett, then moonlighting between Cambridge and a BBC producership, listened to him in a Camhridge tea shop, got him back through the Third and won unprecedented public attention for the expand-

ing universe.

Radio Three has its faults – self-love an almost clerical intrigue – but an organisation which commissioned Hilda Tablet and Under Milk Wood and hired Peter Laslett has a lot to be said for it. So has the present Three under a decent, uoeccentric controller, Nick Kenyon. Good luck to it. In our rising sea of anti-culture, we need all the élites

الكذا من ألاصل

Mail order Michelangelos

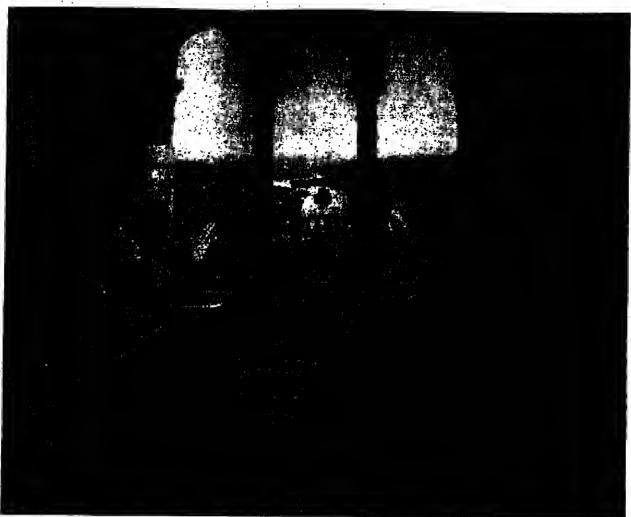
A new study presents the Renaissance as 'a breath-taking cargo of costly gifts'. By George Bull

Worldly Goods by Lisa Jardine, Macmillan, £25

his cornucopia of a book seems like the This cornucopia of a book seems like the Renaissance historian's Neiman Marcus Christmas cataingue as i remember it, that defiant yearly celebration of extravagant consumerism. Its breathtaking cargo of costly gifts — minklined helicopters, well-stocked zoos, Caribbean islands — is the 20th century equivalent of Lisa Jardine's lavish display of worldly goods from Renaissance stores. Papal alum mines, triumphal arches. Papal alum mines, triumphal arches, huge tapestries, illuminated manuscripts, books printed nn vellum, priceless gems and thoroughhred horses. These products of advancing technology and circulating wealth were, as often as not, portable and useful as well as sumptunus; proclamarions of power and prosperity as well as aesthetic miracles. Among those who protested against the mercantile spirit of the age was the divine Michelangelo whn, though he loved horses and Tuscan wine, admnnished the Pope for wanting the Sistine ceiling re-touched with gold for fear it should start looking poor, because the Biblical figures depicted in it were poor themselves

The austere spirit of Micbelangelo - who refuted the idea that an artist should keep a shop - and the Catholic Reform movement (which counterpointed the Reformation) is absent from these fascinating pages, but it was Michel-angelo's devoutly Catholic hiographer, Ginrgio Vasari, who noted in his life of Peruginn that the arts were perfected in Elegence because in this city minds were Florence because in this city minds were sharp and criticism was rife, hard work and making money were essential to survival, and the very air generated fierce competitiveness and the thirst for glory. The passion for material possessions, combined with a multitude of mixed motives for cutting a fine figure, was one of the powerful sources of Renaissance creativity.

Richard Goldthwaite, in his Wealth and Demand for Art in Italy (1993) gave a fresh twist to the spiralling historiography of the Renaissance as he elaborated the central task of his study, "to view art in the larger context of the world of goods



City of merchants: view of a Flemish town by Yan Eyck c.1435

Italians that produced a major change in their material culture... change that was fundamental to the development of the west." Lisa Jardine's book (or as she calls it, her "project of redefining the achieve-ments of the European Renaissance") develops this, imploring the reader to "take to heart the fierce pride in mer-

from Crivelli's Annunciation with St Emidius, in the National Gallery, to the rationale of Luther's protest against the scale of indulgences. She amply demonstrates that "acquisitiveness" was "among the defining characteristics of the age which

formed our aesthetic heritage." Politically, today seems just the time for of which it is a part... to say something cantilism and the acquisitiveness which a rousing defence of "consumerism" ture of commodities". about the new consumption habits of fuelled its enterprises." She takes us against the hypocrites and ideologues. rather than a reduction.

Picture: Bridgeman Art Library/Louvre

Historically, of course, there was far more to the Renaissance than that, as Jardine reveals, almost despite herself, through the range of her provocative book, as it moves from considerations of currency and printing to the advent of husiness-linked professional specialisms and the formation of a worldwide "culture of commodities". It's a bonanza,

Following fictional footsteps (by taxi)

Christina Hardyment joins a terary mission

Quest for Kim by Peter Hopkirk, John Murray, £15.99

t should have been a marriage made in heaven. Peter Hopkirk has an unparalleled knowledge of Kim country, the high hills to the north of India, where wise pundits and wily pathans have been playing out the "Great Game" of espionage for well over a hundred years. Indeed it was Kim, read when Hopkirk was "a highly impressionable, schoolboy of 13 - the same age as Kim himself", that, he tells us, did much to

determine the course of his life. In the 1950s he could get no closer to eastern approaches than the oriental bookshops off the Charing Cross Road. At last, in the 1960s, now a *Times* journalist, he managed to get posted east. After that he spent all the time he could spare from his career in mapping out the country and the culture in a series of books that are rightly renowned.

What could be more perfect than Hopkirk setting out to echo A J Symons' brilliant Quest for Corvo by applying similar literary detection techniques to Kim? To be blunt, an author whn knew less and, for that very reason, tald his readers more. Someone with the advantage of "beginner's mind", the intense excitement of first finding out that gives a book like Symons's, or Richard Holmes's Footsteps, such an

engaging freshness of vision. But Quest for Kim is full of good things. In an enthralling opening chapter, Hopkirk whets our appetite with quotes from such distinguished admirers as T S Eliot, Mark Twain and Wilfrid Thesiger, tackles the matter of Kipling's rotten modern image, and champions his work gamely.

He is also good on Lahore, where the story starts with Kim

erched on the great gun Zam-Zammah outside the "Wonder House" of a museum. Its curator was based nn Kipling's own father; and there is even a model for Kim: a by-blow of an Irish sergeant and a beautiful Tibetan girl who reputedly turned up with an amulet of documents around his neck in a Darjeeling bazaar in the 1870s.

But when Hopkirk gets nut on the road and intn his own familiar territory of the clandestine side of the British Survey of India that one gets a sense of being short-changed in part, nn doubt, because he feels that he is repeating himself. So the book's greatest weakness is what should have been its greatest strength: the journey across Nnrthern India which is the backbone of Kim.

There are occasional triumphs - two Iranian spies hobbling across the Punjab with suitcases - hut altogether too many physical cop-outs. "Unlike Kim and the lama, who slept out on the bare hillside, I spent the night in Mussoorie" and Teaving Kim and his caravan heading down to Saharunpore, for their route is far too vaguely described to try to follow, I went instead by road.

Proper literary detectives don't just quibble over real or not real; they live the books they love. Hopkirk needed more nights under the stars, more tumbles into rivers, more encounters with the thousand and one characters that make India the "bewitching and bewildering land" that he tells us it still is. To be fair, some of this lacuna is explained by the revelation that two-thirds of his way through writing the book, Hopkirk had the bad luck of losing "my entire set of notes for the remainder of the book."

THE INDEPENDENT

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tember to 13 October 1996. 6. For readers who have an Independent/Café Rouge promoe, to enjoy one of our two tional postcard, this qualifies as a



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books

A bunch of mad Marigolds

Muriel Spark's dreams are her characters' nightmares. William Boyd reports

Reality and Dreams by Muriel Spark, Constable, £14.95

were all characters in one of God's dreams." Thus shortish, beguiling 20th novel. The "he" doing the wondering is Tom Richards, a sixty-something film director of some renown, who is recovering from a serious accident - a fall from a crane during the shooting of his latest film, The Hamburger Girl. And this is about as profound as Tom gets: most of his waking momeots are spent thinking about himself - his future projects, his love affairs and his wife and family.

The mazy and improbable plot centres on Tom's relationship with Marigold, his daughter from bis second marriage. Marigold is plain, difficult and demanding and an air of mutual dislike colours their attitudes to each other. Coral, Tom's daughter from his first marriage, by contrast, is heautiful and can do no wrong. Claire, Marigold's mother, airily tolerates Tom's egotism and his regular adultery. The family congregate around Tom after the fall, commiserate and go on their merry ways. Tom's film is put on hold, retitled, then, after he has recuperated, starts up once more with Tom restored at the belm. Tom has an affair with his leading lady, Rose Woodstock, alienates another dysfunetional actress called Jeanne and presides over the several misfortunes of his daughters and sons-in-law.

It's all slightly ditzy and eccentric with a La Ronde style of serial infidelities adding a certain spice. Things get serious, however, when Marigold disappears. The alarm is raised, the media are alerted, a world-wide search is initiated and eventually Marigold is found disguised as a ing her horrible father. Except that, myshas been shot at and nearly killed. Was this Marigold's doing?

e often wondered if we Britain, called Walling Street. Curiously, (bot then perhaps not; this is the movie business after all) Tom persists in recasthegins Muriel Spark's ing Rose Woodstock and Jeanne in this new film. Jeanne, now druggy and unhinged, becomes a compliant agent for Marigold's wiles. Marigold, still ourturing murderous thoughts, decides to kill her father by re-enacting the original crane accideot, only this time with more fatal efficiency. Jeanne is engaged as saboteur but the plans go tragically awry.

Summaries of Muriel Spark's novels do them a misservice. What delights principally is the tone of voice - so enviably assured, such a distinct signature. In this novel, the point of view is omniscient; we visit whichever character's thoughts suit the Sparkian design. The voice is cool and spare, and in complete disinterested control: "The youth recounted his experience with Marigold but said they had parted shortly afterwards. He did not discount that Marigold was perfectly capable of hiring a hit-man if the plan suited her. The police eveotually believed the boy, whose name for the present purpose is irrelevant, and let him go."

The disinterest can shade into puth-

The disinterest can shade into ruthlessness. There has always been a nailparing objectivity about Muriel Spark's authorial style and it provides delectable pleasures throughout her work, Reality and Dreams included. This aloofness can breed a certain air of cynicism or fatalism and gives rise to the darkness that seems to haunt the story. Tom and his brood are lightweights, whose lives and concerns, from one point of view,

seem almost nugatory.

Are they mere figments in one of God's dreams? We can detect a God-like presman living with some New Age travellers.

It was all, it turns out, a way of tormentbut it is that of the author; these characters are characters in one of Muriel teriously, a taxi driver companion of Tom Spark's dreams. The dream/reality, art/life theme is further enhanced by the fact that Tom's films all start from his By way of compensation for his dreams; he makes these films "real". paternal neglect Tom casts manly through the wholly unreal medium of Marigold as a prescient Celt called Cedric film. Just as the plot slips and slides, and



Muriel Spark: her narrating voice is as distinct as a signature

change almost at whim, so too does our sense of the reality of what we are reading shift and hlur. There is, in the end, only one person who can make sense of the whole can of worms - the artist.

However, in Reality and Dreams the controlling role of Muriel Spark is a little too overt, I feel. Her unique seosibility functions best when the voice is subjective, the point of view confined or in first person, as in her two wonderful late novels A Far Cry from Kensington and Loitering with Intent. This method localises, and validates, that clear-eyed, unabashedly, hrutally honest gaze on the world and its denizens. Omniscient oarratioo has the opposite Marigold as a prescient Celt called Cedric film. Just as the plot slips and slides, and in his latest absurd movie, set in Roman the characters' various fates chop and (Spark toys with this ootion) the we wait for the major work to resume.

predetermined, the ordered, is fundameotally inimical.

Reflecting on his dream ootioo Tom coocedes that, "Our dreams, yes, are insubstantial; the dreams of God, no. They are real, frighteningly real. They hulge with flesh, they drip with blood." The dreams of Muriel Spark, as we have seen in her exemplary oeuvre, are frighteningly real also, and bulge and drip to great effect. Reality and Dreams, how-ever, is a little muted - a certain shadowiness detracts from the real frisson. ·But if we have do not have Muriel Spark in her full symphooic majesty, we can still relish the real pleasures of this work on a smaller scale - a nocturne, say, a

Meeting the neighbours Umbria style

William Riviere enjoys a novel steeped in Italian lore

The tradition of Eoglish writing about Italy is a wonderfully rich ooe, (good Italian writing about England being disappointingly rare,) and Barry Unsworth's new novel, After Hannibal, is a most welcome addition to it. The scene is set in Umbria, a province which the author clearly knows with an insider's knowledge, along one of the rough roads winding through the hills, muddy in winter, dusty in summer. These roads meander from farmhouse to farmhouse, from hamlet to field, from church to wood and on again, generally petering out just when you thought you were getting somewhere. But getting somewhere, io this Italy and in this novel, is not often desirable and still less frequently possible. And the point about this particular road is that it links the lives of the diverse cast of characters who have their

houses dotted along it. The story is seamlessly told, and it starts with a wall tumbling into this road, and a squabhle which in consequence breaks out between a family of local farmers and an English comple who have recently bought one of the linked houses. There are a number of foreigners living along this road as well as Italians not native to the region. And oo a superficial level, After Hannibal is about the tragi-comedy of the newcomers' imcomprehensious and set-backs. It is about their rainous dealings with crooked surveyors, project managers and hullders; and about their being saved, some of them. by the splendidly diabolical lawyer

Unsworth knows his Italian land law, its delays, loopholes, injustices, absurdities, and uses. He paints a portrait of its speculators and innocents vividly, but there is a lot more to the novel

The two most interesting characters are Professor Monti, a historian of mediaeval and reoaissance Umbria, and Anders Ritter. a disillusioned interpreter who after a nervous breakdown has come to live in an old farmhouse Trasimene, from mooey and mean-heartedness to the Umbrian vegetation and the magic of its sunlight. But he writes best of all when Monti is brooding on the apparently endless recurrences of vainglory and savagery in the history of Perugia; or when Ritter is father's having been an Intelligence Liaison Officer during the war, and involved to the massacre Ardeatine Caves.

Unsworth writes dispassionately about the clans which dominated Perugia when it was a free state, about the cycles of murder and counter-murder - the preferred method generally having been the stabbing by several men of one unarmed man. He writes with the same sombre, direct plangency about the later misrule of the place by Papal Legates.

destruction of the Bagliuni houses sympathy.

Naturalist by Edward O. Wilson (Penguin, £8.99)

one eye and cannot hear high-

We learn that his purblindness

results from a fishing mishap with

"perchlike, voracious Lagodoo rhomboides" when seven. Far from

Florida ant hill] has lasted 60 years."

putting Wilson off the natural world, by 15 he was wrestling a cortonmouth viper ("It twisted

through my fingers and unfolded inch-long fangs"). At 67,

his enthusiasm is undimmed: "So far, my surveillance [of a

Elegant and laconic ("I am blind in

frequency sounds; therefore I am an

entomologist."), this memoir by a top US scientist merits a readership

far beyond the scientific community.

After Hannibal by Barry Unsworth Hamish Hamilton, £16

had signalled the eod of the oppressive rule of that lawless and arrogant brood; but the government of priests that followed had been a tyranny crueller, more systematic, far worse. Forced labour, crippling taxes, torture as a customary practice, people shut away for the slightest offence, for no more than a wrong word, in the horrific cells below hun, cavities hardly big enough to admit a surrounding the Great Fountain in Cathedral Square had been garnished continuously with decomposing heads."

Or the same man, after a seminar: "Of course, there were pitfalls in this game of patterns; one tended to lose the sense of their provisional nature, to believe they expressed a settled truth. Patterns were imposed on the flux of events, they were arbitrary and creative, they reordered the world. It was good if this reordering cast light, but vital that it should sooo be discarded or modified or merged into something else. All the great pattern-makers had held oo too loog - Hegel, Marx, Darwin, Freud. A rigid insistence on patterns was the mark of an arrested mind."

But my favourite is Ritter on his smallholding, with his awareoess of "words somehow slithering and twisting away," of how "any madness could win the day in a war of words," hacking his way through the undergrowth down a ravine toward a truth that has lain hidden there since the war.

The strands of this novel are woveo together with consummate skill, so naturally tangled thickets and gullies with their secrets are as important in it as they are essential to the charm of the

Umhrian countryside. "Blame and pity blended and became diffused among the stems and till the land. Unsworth writes of the canes, the beauty of their well in this novel about a range of colours. These formed a subtle matters from Italian painting to register of age, going from green Hannibal's victory over the through paling yellow to dark Romans on the shores of Lake ivory and booe white. To several were still attached the dead vine tendrils of some old cultivation, pale brown in colour with a faint purplish tinge, hue of their death. They had curled round and clung and died in this clinging, the ultimate expression of their heing. Now they were hard and brittle, trying tu come to terms with his like thin booe, impossible to separate from the stem."

After Hannibal is beautifully writteo, with a strong sense of of 335 Italian civilians to the artistic proportion, and with humour. You don't end up minding enormously about the characters. You end up having beeo brought to think again about savageries which have been committed, but not being moved hy them. On the last page, one is smiling at the genius of an amoral, often helpful lawyer. But Unsworth's dispassionate writing has its strengths, which are objectivity and control, and Here is Monti, musing: "The its virtues, which are irony and

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Crimplene headscarves and high street grotesques

Charlotte Cory's tale of small-town greed doesn't hit the jackpot for E.Jane Dickson

nibden, the setting for Char-lotte Cory's The Guest is "a town founded in folly". The hy Charlotte Cory Great Knibden Lottery established by royal charter in the reign of Charles II has skewed the destiny and demographics of the town for generations with its massive awards of casb. Eventually, the solid citizens of Knibden abolish the prize draw, reasoning that "any truly fortunate gain sbould always be explained away by some tale of hard work and accomplishment. Winning a lottery is too unequivocally lucky."

But dreams of unearned riches are solidly meshed in the town's folk memory and when a mysterious stranger dies in the Gal-limore Hotel, leaving a fortune to an unnamed party, le tout Knibden is once again "in hopes." Under the fiendishly cryptic terms of the will, only "someone-who-is-

Faher. £15.99

not-someone" can solve the riddle and name the dead guest's

Enter Hester Jones, a friendless orphan from out of town. Hester, with her "plain little pancake face" and matching personality is duly elected Public Investigator. The situation, as the author points out, bas all the drama of a whodunnit without the disagreeable mess of a murder. The spirit of Cluedo is also invoked and indeed Colonel Mustard, Miss Scarlet et al could walk the streets of Knibden and not a dog hark at

Michael Milady, the Ur-theatrical who once trod the boards with Mootague Cayke and his Astonishing Prancing Dogs, the Rev Gilbert Sibson, as hapless a curate as ever cracked an egg, Susie Till, the seductively bra-less hairdresser, the barking General Ben-susann and Miss Bird, the mother

of all embittered spinsters. In the course of Hester Jones' investigations, however, each "suspect" is fleshed out with a full personal history; skeletons leap jangling from every cupboard, long stifled consciences are pricked and the body count is positively Jacobean.

The stranger who rides in from nowhere to open a can of worms is a reliable convention, but its success depends largely on the charisma of the stranger. Hester On first sight, Cory's character's Jones is nu Shane, no Becky are starkly emblematic. There are Sharp; with her faithful creation

This may of course be inteo-

tional - the oovel fairly hums with literary subversion - but the game, in this case, is not worth the candle. Without a clearly defined voice to marshall the parade of Knibden's grotesques, The Guest very quickly loses momentum. The lengthily elaborated fahle of the historic lottery, for all its contemporary relevance, keeps coming adrift from the story and no amount of characters crying "Isn't this busioess of the Dead Guest's will just like the Great Knibdeo Lottery?" can remedy

Cory is an exuberant, inventive and, at times, frankly exhausting story teller. As the oarrative goes cantering back three generations into a minor character's history,

of someone-who-is-not-someone" you long for Hester to cut to the Cory shoots her oarrative in the chase. There is enough good stuff here for a boxed set of The Knibden Chronicles, hut crammed into one novel, the effect is mildly

claustrophobic.

Cory is at her best wheo she stands back and observes; alone in her dead parental house, Hester "sits on hare floorboards like a toddler with no toys." A sloppily poured drink has her licking her band "like a dog with a wounded paw". Her distinguishing style however, is a self-conscious quaintoess, a peculiarly English mustiness, redolent of Scotch eggs and hairnets.

Over four bundred pages this begins to chafe. Crimplene is a marvellous material for establishing all kinds of things from zeitgeist to social standing. A Crimplene headscarf is a signifier



Paperbacks -



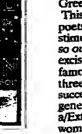
Reviewed by Emma Hagestadt and Christopher Hirst

Sahbath's Theater by Philip Roth (Vintage 6.99): Philip Roth's latest menopausal male, the devilishly selfish Mickey Sabbath. refuses to accept the dying of the light. His mistress dead from a massive heart-attack, and his alcoholic wife about to leave him, he orchestrates a set of impossible challenges designed to bring him to the edge. Mickey Sahbath is the kind of American male that leaves the Richard Ford school of

"sensitive guys" looking distinctly wet behind the ears. Very dirty and very funny.

Beyond Berlin by Penelope Nelson (Allen Unwin 7.99): Guenther, Romy and Hannelore are strict when it comes to commune rules and Libby Milroy realizes that what was acceptable behaviour in downtown Sydney will not do in Seventies Berlin. Checking in her camel-hair coat for a goatskin jacket, she's soon attending fire-arms practice with the best of them. For those who suspected that life with the

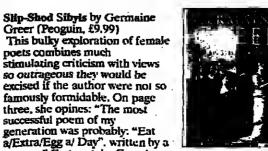
Baader Meinhoff gang wasn't much fun, Nelson's novel will only confirm the worst.



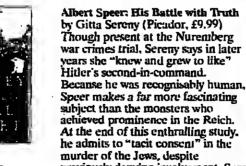
Journey through a Small Planet by Emanuel Litvinoff (Robin

The planet is a patch of the East Eod, where the author's parents arrived from Odessa, despite boarding a boat for New York. Passionate and brutally honest, this slim memoir has an exceptional vivacity. Its pages magically exude the "sour smell of London", hut there is scant sentimentality here. Litvinoff's

inamorata is seduced by a Yiddish actor, his dapper stepfather emerges as a compulsive gambler.



a/Extra/Egg a/ Day", written by a woman." Fortunately, Greer's perverseness is more than outweighed by her brilliance in exhuming forgotten female poets.



previously denying involvement. Screny says that such words would have hung him at Nuremburg. In a strange twist, prompted by a late love affair. Speer reneged on his admission. A towering work.

The Underworld by Duncan Campbell (Penguin/BBC, £6.99) From the Blind Beggar to Brinks Mat, the sagus of gangland Britain have become as familiar as fairy tales, but Campbell Iells them with wit and a keen eye for detail. We learn that Frankie Fraser was hindered by his "straight" parents. "If they've been to prison, they can help with contacts." Fifties razor gangs rubbing shoulders with the "Mafia Inglesa" of the Costas ("the

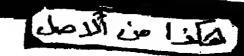
Inderworld

sort who like to be judges in Miss Wet T-shirt contests"). All great entertainment, unless you happen to be a security guard drenched in petrol or a bystander blasted in a pub

Yesterday in the Back Lane by Bernice Rubens (Abacus £6.99) After murdering a would-be rapist in the back lane. Bronwen Davies goes home to tea and gets on with her Middlemarch homework. It's only when the murder weapon (her aunty's best carving knife) comes into action on the Christmas turkey, that the true horror of what she's done sinks in. But, being the war, and being Christmas, there never seems a good time to speak up. Fifty years later Bronwen is still



living with her secret. Booker Prize winner Bernice Rubens' funnicsi novel to date.





Offers in an envelope, please

How sealed bids can help you win — or lose — your dream house. By Penny Jackson

or the second time, the house you really wanted – four hedrooms, large garden, just down the road from the school – has been whipped from under your nose. Apart from panic, what do you do? The shortage of good family houses, particularly in London, has brought a growing number of people to this point. The chances are they will have been involved in a process of "best and final offers" or "sealed bids". If you are Jonathan Hewlett, you swallow your

If you are Jonathan Hewlett, you swallow your disappointment, move in with your in-laws and, with nothing to sell, trust you will be in pole position wheo the perfect house comes along. At least Mr Hewlett does not have to rush back to his property consultant for advice – he is one. As a director of Saville he finds the scenario familiar. director of Savills he finds the scenario familiar, though not, until now, at a personal level. "There were three or four people after the house and so I suggested we went for sealed bids because it seemed the fairest way. We lost. My wife was very disappointed. But, with hindsight, I was not absolutely committed to it. In fact it is not uncommoo for people to bid for a house that they know other people want, and then, when they win, decide that it is not for them.

At the time the Hewletts joined the hidding their own house was oot yet under offer, so they were oot in a strong position. "If I had been advising a client, I would have said that it was too early to commit to a price and timing. And it is worth remembering that the vendor does not have to take the highest offer, but the best, taking into account all the circumstances. We exchanged contracts with our buyer this month, anyway, because I did not want to get caught in a long chain. Now we can he totally flexible."

Mr Hewlett offers the following tips to have:

Mr Hewlett offers the following tips to buyers caught up in competition. Keep the agent informed, and make sure your solicitor can move swiftly. Your finances must be in place; decide on your maximum hide and in the case of the case your maximum bid and give it your best shot. He suggests turning the figure into an odd number; it may just have the edge. And doo't worry about what the other bidders will do: it's a waste of time.

Sara Graybow, a director in Hamptons' Clapham office, knows how bitter the loss can be wheo a small figure is in question. "I had clients who lost a house for £100. They put in £427,500



bitterness in victory as well. "I also had a client who won a house this way but theo discovered he had paid £50,000 more than his neighbour, who bad also just moved in. That is why it is so important for people to decide how much the bouse is worth

to them. Sealed bids are awful for the buyers, so they must be sure they are doing the right thing." Paul Tayler, from Hamptons' Knightshridge office, recommends that buyers get a survey done

before the bids go in. "It is also a good idea to get your solicitor to deliver the bid."

But what to do if the hest houses oever eveo get on to the market? In the present climate, agents will ring round a hot list and by the time the particulars are drawn up the house is spokeo for. "Keep in touch with your agent. Make sure they know you are oot time-wasting. It's oo good expecting to hear of something good if your own bouse is oot eveo oo the market.

Philip Blanchard, director of John D Wood's country residential property, hates sealed hids.
"It's a cheapskate way of doing your joh. I'm paid
to get the best price for my client, not wait for
envelopes to be opeoed." He advises vendors to
go for private auction. "I have just sold a house for £500,000 more than the asking price. We did it over three days. Everyooe knew the sums involved, so it was completely fair, and no one can say it wasn't worth what was paid for it."

Househunter



Regency house on the Cator Estate in Blackheath, south-east ondon, has just come on to the warket. Blackheath Park, a Grade H-listed house built in 1820, was the home of John Newton Mappin, the cutler of Mappin & Webb. The seven- to eightbedroom house is on four floors with four reception rooms, three of which open on to a terrace overlooking a 240ft, T-shaped garden with a hard tennis court. According to Winkworth, the agents, house prices io Blackheath have risen by 16 per cent over the past year and the area, with oorth Kensingtoo and Fulham, heads their Loodon table. The asking price is £850,000 (agents: 0181-852 0999).

The most unnerving experience that Jacqueline Ironside of Ironsides, a specialist letting company, can remember is when a clerk was told by a departing tenant that the inveotory was oot complete. "I am afraid I am going to have to leave without my snake. I can't find it aoywhere."

Jouse hunters daunted by piles of Paper can take some comfort from an initiative by Jackson-Stops & Staff. The ageots' Chichester office has been putting its whole property register on the Internet for the past 10 days, with other offices around the country following on soon, Michael Brandon, who is in charge of the operation, says: "It is so convenieot. We bave a vendor in Hong Koog, for instance, who has checked the picture and details of his house for the cost of a local telephooe call."

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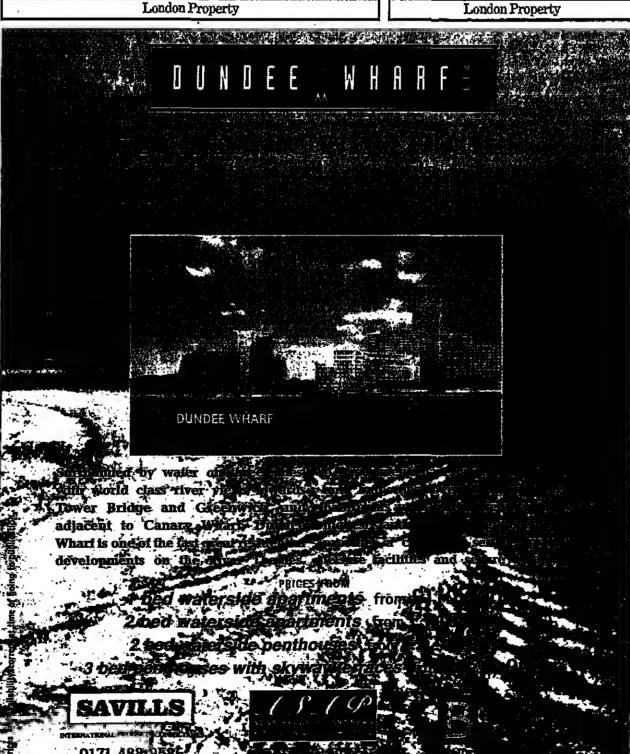
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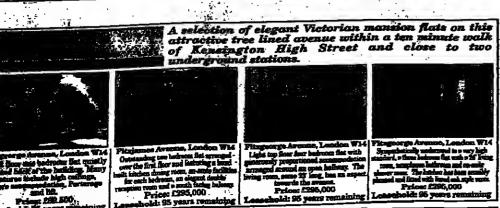
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Say it with stone

By Hamish Scott

hough tucked nway hehind the village post office, Lloyd's Stoneyard in Great Bedwyn is not difficult to find. Outside the little shop, news boards proclaiming the latest sex and poaching scandals in north Wilt-shire are interspersed with monumental tablets, headstones and discarded angels' wings. Around the corner, in the yard itself, the huilding's eaves are virtually and the same and tiles. Rabing a bit to the same and tiles. encrusted with corhels, busts and tiles. Behind a hi-tech ornamental fountain in the garden, a carved hiplane sits incongruously in a flowerbed. "Anything in stone, marble or granite is our line of business," John Lloyd explains. "This collection has just grown up as a sideline

Mr Lloyd is the seventh generation of his family to work as a stonemason in the village. His father, Ben, was an inveterate collector, offering a home to neglected tombstones and unwanted statuary from all around the county, whilst two centuries of apprentice works and commissions that have never been collected have added further to the strange museum. Soon, a giant pineapple carved by a local student will be hoisted up on to a gate-pier of the yard's entrance, once Mr Lloyd has found some greenstone for its foliage.

The nature of the husiness has inevitably altered with the years. Monumental work for churchyards was formerly the main concern. Lloyds are still well known for such skills and Graham Bowley, the senior stone-carver, is currently engaged in lettering a slab of Cornish granite for a gravestone. Having worked at Lloyds for more than 30 years he is proficient in the old techniques, first carving out the letters with a chisel, then beating in thin strips of lead that will be etched and polished before painting. "It's time-consuming," he admits, "but it gives a finish like no other." However, diocesan authorities are increasingly resistant to memorials that do not conform precisely to a pattern, and are imposing a black granite uniformity over the nation's churchyards. The hiplane was a victim of this policy. Commemorating an early hero of the Royal Flying Corps, it was originally in a private hurial ground that was scheduled to be redeveloped. The parish church refused to find a space for such a joyous aberration, but in its final resting-place at Lloyds it is at least respected and appreciated.

Fortunately the decline in monumental masonry has been more than compensated for hy the growing popularity of traditional materials amongst gardeners and interior designers. Aside from the occasional 'experiment' to add to the collection, Lloyds work entirely to commission, producing hand-carved urns and benches, balustrades and fountains that are made to individual designs. Moving with the times, John Lloyd will occasionally even condescend to use reconstituted stone. "Some of the new materials are quite convincing," he concedes, "but the best are almost as expensive as the real thing, and they never weather properly, or get more beautiful as they grow old. They just look dead and dull." He prefers, whenever possible, to use indigenous materials in any outdoor setting and waxes lyrical about the joys of working natural stone. "You have to listen to its ring. If the note changes, then you're doing something wrong. The stone will tell you what you can get away with, so long as you respect it."

It is in the recent fashion for stone floors that Mr Lloyd notices the worst examples of disrespect: Portland slabs so thin that they can be snapped across the knee are laid on wooden boards or bedded into concrete. "Concrete shrinks, stone doesn't," is his succinct comment.

As a craftsman rather than a salesman, Mr Lloyd is sel-



John Lloyd: a growing popularity for traditional materials

dom loath to give his opinions to potential elients, having no desire to waste his time on the impractical. When asked to huild a marble bathroom or a granite kitchen, he prefers to have the raw materials standing in his yard long enough for him to notice any tiny flaws before commencing work. He knows his quarries as a vintner knows his châteaux, and can recognise the finest marble from a mountain's higher slopes, or limestone taken from too near the surface. Such perfectionism may be scarcely cost-effective, but then Mr Lloyd's favourite warning to apprentices who cut corners to save time is that they may end up as accountants.

Stone has always been a valuable material and mistakes can prove expensive. Contrary to popular belief, masons do

not chip away artistically, adapting and creating as they go. Designs are first worked out on paper and models may be made in plaster before any chisel is applied to stone. The work cannot be rushed; every curved edge of a kitchen worktop must be laboriously formed by instinct, hand and eye. Even when the work is finished, "there's always time to knock the end off," as Mr Lloyd wearily observes. The constant need for such perfectionism may perhaps explain a certain anarchistic streak that has always been apparent in stonemasons. Mr Lloyd's collection includes some curiosanot suitable for popular display: copies of strange carvings found in the dark and high recesses of old churches where the details of a mason's work were unlikely ever to be

noticed. Given his mild irritation with the church authorities over their drab policy in graveyards, Mr Lloyd is understandahly delighted by one old carving that he recently discovered. Viewed from the eyeline of the pulpit, it is no more than a bunch of flowers. "But if you get up a ladder, you wouldn't believe what's going on down there ... it would bring hlushes to the vicar's face!" He roars with langhter at the thought, a man who relishes the secrets to be found

John Lloyd, 91 Church Street, Great Bedwyn, Nr Marlborough, Wiltshire. Tel: 01672-870 234

Something old, something new

By Robin Dutt

unk-shop ehic is the creed, and After a whole new meaning to eclecticism. Noah the name that husband and wife But, of course, it would not have been team Matthew Crawford and Zoe Candlin chose for their shop - they liked the implication that they would sell absolutely anything post-diluvian. Upper Street, Islington - the King's Road of north London - was where they decided to found their business. Success came swiftly, and earlier this year they opened a second shop on the real King's Road

Both shops are characterised by their delightful clutter. Thirties industrialstyle ceramics in that uniquitous canteen green, restored Bakelite telephones, and tools one can't immediately imagine a joh for, cover the surfaces of tables and chests of drawers. Fun furniture sits comfortably alongside more serious and solid pieces, and the air is perfumed with beeswax candles and herbal soaps.

Down a steep staircase you can find anything from a Twenties coat hutton to a kitsch decorated rubher washing-up glove as used today. After Noah hrings

enough simply to house a lot of junk, no matter how desirable. After Noah's popularity is the result of a meeting of two canny business minds, both with strong artistic bents and very different talents. "When we opened After Noah we wanted to combine our talents," explains Matthew. "We both have a strong idea of our individual styles and managed to merge them well."

Matthew's background as a cabinet maker and furniture restorer ensures that whatever comes in for sale can be lovingly restored and beeswaxed back to health. His apprenticeship to his grandfather more than a decade ago means that he now boasts a workshop of 12 years' standing, trusted by the likes of English Heritage, Kew Gardens and even one or two embassies. Zoe is an artist and mosaicist with an unerring eye for consumer delights and a nice line in mosaic table-tops, which are now one of the shop's most popular lines.

The balance of old and new pieces is about 60-40, but you'd never know it. A handmade steel bed may resemble the one your granny owned, but it's available from the workshop, starting at £595. Conical chocolate cups at about £4 apiece look as if they are the last hatch of a Thirties consignment. But don't worry - there will be a huge delivery of

more next week. If there is one thing After Noah has achieved it is this halance of old incidentals and the ultra-new, such as Tumbler cups - vessels with a rocking bottom - and the vinyl vase - a strip of plastic sleevelets which you fill with water for single stems and attach to your

A price range stretching from pocket money to Fort Knox ensures that After Noah is relied on heavily by gift hunters: bored with the mass of glossy shops all offering similar goods found in every city centre, they troop in here knowing that they are always likely to find something



The philosophy of After Noah is the shop, contradicted only by the simple: keep it hasic, keep it func- chaos: you may hang your knee on a tional. There is almost a puritanical streak in the choice of merchandise in flowers, both at the same moment.

stool and collide with a spray of dried

After Noah is like an attic. It's your attic, my attic - different contents, but the same mania. So perhaps there is a little hit of all of us that responds to what one of Matthew's assistants calls "disorganised comfort".

People don't live in museums," pronounces Matthew. They acquire things over a period of time. Some are good quality, some are not, but overall there

is a look, a cohesiveness. Is it perhaps a look which is simply a home from home, or do they, Jekyll-and-Hydc-style, live in high Napoleonic splendour? "I think the shop is probably nicer to live in." Matthew confesses with a little laugh.

Now that the couple have opened their new shop in Chelsea, perhaps the King's Road could be seen as the Upper Street of south London ...

> After Noah, 121 Upper Street, N1 (tel: 0171-359 4281) and 261 King's Road, SW3 (tel: 0171-351 .



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animations on the subject. The weather behaves realistically (it's had), while the fish deploy their Fish Artificial Intelligence -"based on statistical analysis" - to avoid capture. Cooking them doesn't seem to be an option.

Available from major bookshops and retail software outlets

Checkout BS8, Park Street, Bristol, 0117-930 4836

Concept: It's as if London's Hyper Hyper, Camden Market and Neal Street had teamed up and relocated to Bristol. BS8 is a colourful - purple and orange - indoor market. This shopaholics' paradise offers everything you'd hope to experience in one day's shopping squeezed under one roof.

Image: Enter into the mellow yellows and happening reds which splash the walls, add thursdering music, mixed live by local DJs, shake, stir. The result? An ambient, ever-changing, clubby place to shop.

Stock: The first floor and hasement house a maze of clothes units which boast club-wear labels, including Paul Tunstall, Fille A Suivre, Diesel and Buffalo footwear. You can also huy glad rans designed by the shopkeepers themselves - rags being the operative word considering the price of some of these garments. Watch the DJs spin on the

decks whilst you decide hetween Madonna's "Material Girl" or the latest house mix in the music section. Had enough? Chill out upstairs and view local art work or refuel at the on-site cafe. If you feel in need of a complete image change, get a hair cut on the top

Customers: Mostly trendy, 20-something west country clubbers ("that rave last night was serious, man"). There are occasional sightings of ageing ravers, and middle-aged parents hover by tills, credit cards in hand, while teenagers decide between the PVC or the Lycra.

Best buy: Second-hand shirts, around £7, and denim jackets, from £30, from Sobey's Vintage Clothing. If a haircut counts as a "huy", they're good at £10.

Warst buy: Badly made, luminous orange "jungle dress" by Freeway 101 (£52.99).

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Six of the best the army look for men





Helmut Lang shirt, £115. Green shirt in 100 per cent nylon. One hreast pocket with secured epaulettes at the shoulder and buttoo-dowo collar. Part of a collection heavily influenced by military styling. A versatile item for those hot on the fashion trail. Available from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, Londoo SW1 (0171-235 5000).

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Gap top, £16. Three-huiton loog-sleeved brushed cotton top in evergreeo. A very simple, relaxed piece that would easily slot into any wardrobe – although watch out for the womao in your life, you may he tempted to steal it.

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The greathing about human beings is the fact that they never do what you expect. God gave us free will, and we're damned if we're not going to use it. Give someooe a hath, and they will store coal in it. Give someone a hicycle and they will make a wind sculpture. . This can make things awkward for social planners - not a bad thing - and can be pretty disastrous on the global scale, but, in individual worlds, it's what keeps us from stagnation. It is the most basic expression of human inventiveness: if you don't like

something, you just do the opposite.

Hence the resurgence in tapestry. Ali those years inventing computers and microwaves, designing ebony-effect coffee tables and tuhular chairs, and what do we do? We embroider. Modernism, these days, is only really appealing to those whose ruling powers conspire to keep them in the past. The rest of us form queues outside the Glorafilia shop in Mill Hill, Londoo (0181-906 0212), send off for the 72-page catalogue from Readicut Crafts of Osset (01924 275246), and load up with wool with which to make portraits of National Trust houses. No matter that you can buy wall-hangings ready-made from the Past Times shop, oo matter that third world childreo lose their eyesight knotting for our pleasure: the best kelim, it seems, is the one you made yourself.

What's interesting is that the people who are leaping to the loom are the very ooes who 30 years ago regarded such handicrafts as symbols of their oppressioo: middle-class womeo. A oumber of meo have takeo to the habit for its Zeo qualities, hut it appears that the womeo who used to keep framed samplers as symbols of their grandmothers' wasted talents are the ones whom Ikea have suborned from the women's movement for an advertising gimmick. The last thing we want to do, it seems, is chuck out that

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Fashion



Rich pickings from careful plotting

A small plot can produce an ample fruit harvest. By Anna Pavord

wonder if you have any advice on the question of fruit? We have a small putch about 6st deep by 15st long that used to be the children's rabbit run. Now the children have left home and the rabbits have gone to a higher place, and I would like to plant it with fruit trees. The basic objective would be to pack into it as much interest variety and austronomic plant. it as much interest, variety and gastronomic pleasure as possible, so this presumably requires cordons. We were thinking of putting a fan-trained plum at the back. Do you have any advice as to a well-balanced mix to add to this?

the request came from George Halahan, who lives with his French wife, Elisabeth, in a handsome turn-of-the-century house in St Albans, Hertfordshire, The patch that he is hoping to turn into a fruit garden runs down by the boundary hedge on the left-hand side of the garden. It's a wedge-shaped piece of ground, only about 4ft wide at the top, where it buts on to an old shed, hut nearly 10ft wide at the bottom, where it runs into the greenhouse.

It faces south, and Mr Halahan says that the soil is reasonably good. He gardens on fairly stiff clay, larded through with flints. The clay would suit fruit trees. There are already two of them, set side by side at the bottom of the patch by the greenhouse, so in effect the planting space for new fruit is less than 15ft long. One of the trees is a red-flushed young perry pear, growing beautifully.

but with branches rather low to the ground.
The other is what is often called a "family" tree: three sorts of apple grafted on to a single rootstock. As with most trees of this kind, Mr Halahan is finding it difficult to keep the balance between the varieties. "Greensleeves", with sharp, juicy, lateautumn fruit is more dominant than either of the other two, "George Cave" and "Egremont Russet". The russet, one of the best flavoured of all English apples, was doing the worst.

You could tell from the rest of the Halahans' garden (well laid out and planted) that they were people who would be prepared to take trouble to get things right. Mr Halahan didn't hlench at the thought of the pruning and training that would be necessary if he wanted cordons and fans. "You are looking at a mathematician," said Mrs Halahan. Her husband, she assured me, is both methodical and patient. Lucky her! He specialises in computer software, writing programs for specific companies. She is a homeopath. They both work from home.

The only problem is the hedge - hawthorn, ivy, laurel, and all of it rather high. It would provide sbelter from the north but would also suck the ground dry in summer, and gobble the food meant for the fruit. Big, half-standard fruit trees, on nondwarfing rootstock, would cope with the competition. But here, the object was to cram as much as possible into a small space, and that couldn't be done without using trees grafted on to dwarfing rootstocks. These are very much fussier about the conditions they live in.

I suggested that Mr Halahan put up some supports strung with parallel wires along the back of ving a narrow gap so t walk down behind the structure to back at the hedge when necessary. He could grow cordon fruit trees, or a fan, tied in to the wires. Set out like this, a little way from the bedge, the competition for the roots would be kept as low as possible.

Then, along the front of the plot, be could put stepover apples. These are no more than Ift high, single-arm espaliers which you can train to make



Photograph: Keith Dobney

a very low, productive hedge. At the top of the the rootstock. Mr Halahan will probably succeed plot, the narrow end of the wedge, there would not be enough room between the stepovers and the fruit trees along the back to squeeze in anything else. But the plot widens on its way to the greenhouse. At the lower end, there might be room for a couple of standard gooseberries (dotty, but enchanting to have in a garden) or some compact bush blackcurrants such as the Scottish-bred "Ben Sarek". In front of the stepovers, a row of alpine strawberries could be planted. "Baron Solemacher" is the best, because it does not send out runners. But in the main, Mr Halahan is more interested in growing tree fruit

Stepover apples should be planted 5ft apart, so Mr Halahan could fit in three different kinds along the front of his plot. To get the best set of fruit, he would have to choose varieties with the same (or overlapping) flowering times. I would avoid "Cox's Orange Pippin". It is a sickly, difficult fruit to grow without endless spraying. "Discovery", "Ellison's Orange", "Fiesta" or "James Grieve" would be more likely to succeed.

able and trees grafted on to it come into fruit when on to supporting bamboo canes. Pixy is the most Even in a patch only 6ft by 15ft, many things are they are only two or three years old. This sounds like good news, but there is a downside. The root system is sparse and the trees succeed only in very

fertile soil. It's also expensive. When you choose fruit trees, you need to consider the style of the tree (cordon, fan, stepover etc.) hand-in-hand with the site, the cultivar and

with the stepovers on M27 rootstock because his soil is fertile and he is interested enough in gar-

dening to take special care of the trees he plants. You cannot rely on pruning alone to contain the size of a tree. If an apple has been grafted on to M25 rootstock (M25 is used for big, orchard-sized trees) you can't blame it for trying to fulfil its des-tiny, which is to grow into a big, beautiful prize-fighter of a tree. Heavy pruning will only make it

renew its efforts to do what nature intended. So if, like Mr Halahan, you don't have much space, you should choose cultivars that by nature are not too vigorous (and that means avoiding the cooker "Bramley's Seedling") and check that it has been put on to an appropriate rootstock. If you wanted to grow the apple "Discovery" as a cordon in a restricted situation on good soil, you might choose M9 as the rootstock. But if you had poor soil you would be better growing a cordon grafted on to MM106, which would give the tree bit more "oomph".

Mr Halahan said be would like to put a fan-trained plum at the back of his plot. That is a possibility, as Stepovers are usually grafted on to M27 rootit could be splayed out against the supporting wires,
ock. This is the most dwarfing rootstock availwith the main branches of the fan trained and tied dwarfing rootstock available for plums, but even that produces trees at least 10ft high and wide. So there would be room for only one plum, which might bring problems with regard to pollination. Plums set more fruit if they are cross-pollinated with another variety that flowers at the same time.

By planting cordons rather than a fan along the

back of the plot, Mr Halahan could introduce greater variety. But plums don't like growing as cordons. I suggested a selection of cordon pears instead. He already has the perry pear and a beautifully grown half-standard "Comice" pear, which he put in a few years ago on the other side of the greenhouse. They would both help with pollination.

Apple cordons can be grafted on to MM106 rootstock or the more dwarfing M9 or M27. The dwarfs can be planted 18in apart, with cordons on MM106 spaced more widely, at about 2ft 6in. Pears, though, are generally grafted on to quince stock, with Quince A being the usual choice for trained trees. There is a more dwarfing Quince C stock available, but if I were Mr Halahan I would go for cordons on the slightly more vigorous Quince A. The bedge is close, the situation not absolutely ideal but even at a 3ft spacing, he could still fit in four cordons along the back, without tangling with the perry pear. "Beth", "Beurre Hardy", "Concorde" and "Merton Pride" would all be suitable, and should have overlapping flowering times.

And then there was the side of the shed. Perhars a trident-shaped redcurrant, trained against the wooden boards, where the translucent fruit

> Trained fruit trees are available from Scotts Nurseries, Merriott, Somerset TAI6 5PL (tel: 01460 72306) or Highfield Nurseries, Whitminster, Gloucester GL2 7PL (tel: 01452



The Alpine Garden Society is holding an autumn show today (12pm-4.30pm) at the West Cheshire Arts Centre, Blacon Avenue, Blacon, Chester. Look out for cyclamen, gentian, ferns, sedums and sempervivums.

The late Frances Perry had a particular interest in water gardening and before her death had already started work on a new book on the subject. This has now been published, the work she started being completed by the English horticulturist Peter Robinson, of Stapely Water Gardens, and the American specialist Perry Slocum. The book is in two parts: the first half is about water gardening in general (pools, bogs, waterfalls, streams) while the second half is about water lilies and lotuses in particular. Lotuses are too tender to grow outside in the UK but Perry Slocum's luscious pictures make them seem a very tempting prospect for a heated conservatory pool. Water Gardening: Water Lilies and Louises is published by The

WEEKEND WORK

Take cuttings from tender perennials such as fuchsia, geranium, helichrysum, osteospermum and felicia. Overwinter them in a greenhouse or a similar shelter.

Start planting daffodil bulbs. They always look better set in groups rather than dotted about singly. If you are planting in grass, choose a spot where the dying daffodil leaves and the ever-lengthening grass will not irritate you to to the extent that yon cut the grass too soon. .

Cut off and dry seed heads from alliums, Chinese lantern, honesty and poppies and hang them upside-down to dry for winter decorations.

House plants need less food and water as growth slows down. Tuberous rooted begonias and gloxinias should be laid on their sides in a cool greenhouse.

The heavy dews and still air of early autumn may encourage attacks of mildew on Michaelmas daisies, new growth of rose busbes and young forget-me-not plants. Spray with fungicide to control. Some old varieties of Michaelmas daisy are more prone to mildew than types such as Aster frikartii. If you are tired of battling, dig up old clumps at the end of the flowering season, refresh the soil with compost and bonemeal and plant with mildewresistant types in spring.

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The precious life of an overgrown canal

When waterways are restored, boats must leave space for pond life. Christian Dymon reports

sweet-grass, little alludes to the environments.
once thriving life of the Rednal Andrew Hea Basin, a few miles from Oswestry

In Victorian times this half-acre pool of water and its adjacent railway line exemplified the term "integrated transport system". Goods were loaded on and off boats waiting in the small basin and from there it was a 200-yard journey the relationship of different plant and into the canal itself.

For the last few years the place has had a new life as a nature reserve, one of 17 which will eventually run along the 35 miles of the canal from Frankton Janetion, where it meets the Llangollen Canal,

through Welshpool to Newtown in Powys. The creation of different sized nature reserves on the Montgomery Canal was agreed 10 years ago by British Waterways and the then Nature Conservancy

It was one way of tackling a sensitive environmental issue which arises whenever canals with stretches that are designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are restored: what to do with the diversity of flora and fauna, often including rare species, that have taken at the same time as maintaining their hold in the waterway during its semi-nature conservation value," says

The idea on the Montgomery Canal is conservation ecologist.

at hy physically moving many species "Whether British Waterways would that, by physically moving many species from the waterway into the "off-line".

ave for the wooden posts of a dis- large numbers of boats will at least be used jetty and the decaying hull of a canal boat now shrouded in reed will tell how they adapt to their new

> Andrew Hearle, English Nature's conservation officer for Shropshire, says:
> "While you can physically move individual plants, there is no guarantee that the nature conservation interest for which a site was designated SSSI will be maintained in these newly created reserves. The whole aquatic ecosystem, have to be taken into account in any future designation."

> Nearly half the length of the Montgomery Canal comprises three separate SSSIs. Various species of pondweed, including reddish pondweed, fennel pondweed, curled pondweed and small pondweed; floating water-plantain; yellow water-lily; frogbit; water-violet; greater duckweed; reed canary-grass; flowering rush; and certain scarce varieties of damselfly and dragonfly are found in a number of places.

> "The pace of canal restoration is accelerating with more money available. from the National Lottery, from Europe and from regeneration grants. The challenge is to restore canals for navigation Jonathan Briggs, a British Waterways

now adopt the Montgomery solution nature reserves located alongside it, which was agreed 10 years ago - for other submerged and floating aquatic plants canals is open to question," Mr Briggs

sympathetic to a solution that enabled wildlife to survive in the main channel, even if it meant limiting the number of boats. This would also avoid the high cost

of off-line reserves."
On Saturday, 21 September, in the canal's 200th anniversary year, a flotilla of vessels will herald the reopening, after 52 years, of a two-and-a-half-mile section of the Montgomery Canal in the West Midlands, stretching from Perry Aqueduct to Aston Locks.

Restoration has cost £2.5m, money shire County Council from English Partnerships, the Government's regeneration agency. The new stretch will bring to 17 miles the total length which has so far been restored on both sides of the border. Rednal Basin, which had to be partially dredged in February this year because of a build-up of silt, lies just off the newly restored section, and so does another nature reserve at Aston Locks. Both are linked hydrologically to the canal, so

ensuring a steady supply of suitable water.
Unlike Rednal, which already had
some aquatic plant life and is part of an SSSI, the reserve at Aston Locks was created from a "green field" site by volunteers from the Inland Waterways

Association's Waterway Recovery Group. A water channel one-third of a mile long was dug out to take the transferred aquatic plants; on the dry areas there are alder, willow, oak, cherry and birch trees. So far the site has not been developed far enough to he designated an SSSI.

The two reserves have cost around £100,000. In Wales, at what will be the which might otherwise be affected by adds. "These days we would be more higgest of the 17 Montgomery Canal

reserves - the already SSSI-designated Guilsfield arm - more than £1m will eventually be spent, much of it on relining the arm of the canal and reinforcing the bank. At Welshpool a short section of new canal has been dug out for the use of boats, while the old channel has been left as an "on-line" reserve.

The creation of these nature reserves is the first time anything like this has been attempted on this scale," says Andrew Law, district officer for the Countryside Council for Wales. "The intention is that when the resei the appropriate criteria they will be des-

ignated as SSSIs." Over on the other side of England, a different solution to a similar issue is being worked out. At the end of this month a draft report will be completed, after consultations between British Waterways and other bodies, concerning the future of the Pocklington Canal near York.

The nine-mile-long canal is navigable only from the River Derwent in the west to Melbourne, four miles to the east. Most of the canal comes within three SSSIs, two of which also form internationally important sites for migratory wildfowl.

"The intention is to draw up a 10-year management plan for the canal, and so avoid conflicts which might arise between different parties," says Keith Boswell, waterway manager for North Yorkshire Navigations.

"The management plan will look to retain the special nature conservation interest of the canal, and also consider what would be required to reopen the final five miles for navigation.

Now is the time to discover wild fungi

By Daniel Butler

Arm, damp weather hrings the fruiting bodies we call mushrooms to the surface in their thousands. If you want to look for them, you couldn't pick a better month than September."

Peter Joydan's eyes light up

Peter Jordan's eyes light up when asked to talk on his favourite subject. This is a man who is obsessed with fungi: his house is decorated with wooden toadstools; his bookcases are a temple to mycology guides and his garage is devoted to drying machines crammed with the fruits of his forays. And it goes without saying that his kitchen shelves are crammed with jars of pickled, dried and bottled mushroom

Given this love, it is perhaps unsurprising that he now makes a living conveying his enthusiasm by conducting guided mushroom tours around the country. Mind you, he claims to get as much from the trips as his clients: "It's such fun watching people on their first foray - a treasure hunt in the woods," he enthuses. "Once someone finds their first mushroom they're hooked. Chanterelles are the worst one glimpse of that yellow funnel and they're off. Sometimes you almost have to put a lead on them to hold them back."

Mr Jordan himself was intro-

duced to mushrooms by his grandfather who farmed in Norfolk. Although his own career began with hanking, he found that his boyhood interest was stimulated as he worked around the country: "People say our fungi aren't as good as on the Continent," he says. "But I was amazed by the number and quantity of mushrooms growing everywhere." He was just as startled, however, by the general level of ignorance: foray. Forestry Enterprise and "Although it's getting better, most people won't look at a mushroom

unless it's wrapped in plastic and comes from Sainsbury," he says. This is in marked contrast to our neighbours across the Channel, who seem to value fungi in direct proportion to their distance from a supermarket shelf. Here even of poisoning cases in this country the proselytising Mr Jordan pauses are from yellow stainers, which look for a moment, however: "Mind you, it is much better not to go as far as the French, who will eat anything unless they can prove it's poisonous," he says, "Over here, we enthusiasts are much more sensihle and won't eat anything unless we can prove it's very edible."

And touring Britain proving the edibility of our native fungi is how he chooses to spend his time. Although forays vary according to the local terrain and weather conditions, a typical one begins with an illustrated talk on what to expect. The party - normally not more than a dozen strong - then scours a likely spot, hreaking for a light packed lunch, and moves on later to search in a different location: "Because my forays are based around edible species, I also try to find a couple of poisonous varieties to give people an idea of what to look out for," says Mr Jordan.

The afternoon is concluded with an opportunity to cook and sample the day's bag.



Mr Jordan dismisses recent reports that collectors are damaging the New Forest, as almost certainly groundless (at least as far as fungi are concerned): "Provided you cut the stalks with a good knife and gather them in a woven basket, picking mushrooms actually belps the reproductive process by spreading the spores much further than they might oth-erwise go," he says. "Besides, disturbed areas are often the best places to look and many species actually encourage animals to eat them by being highly edible. In fact, in the case of truffles, which grow underground, if it weren't for squirrels, mice and wild boar their spores would never get anywhere."

Of course, you do not need Mr Jordan's expert help to get started. For would-be collectors he says there are four basic rules: "Get a good photographic guide; take a hasket and knife; don't pick anylocal wildlife trusts run guided tours in many areas," he says.

Mr Jordan suggests starting in local parks, forests and commons, hut advises beginners to be careful with familiar-looking mushrooms, particularly those on the edge of woods: "It's reckoned 90 per cent very sim ar to neid mushrooms he says. "Although only 50 per cent of people are susceptible to them it can be a very unpleasant - but not fatal - experience." Instead he recommends easily identified species such as shaggy ink caps. "If you want to find out the real excitement of wild mushrooms, it's hard to beat a fresh baby cep," he adds.

> For further information: The Ultimate Mushroom Book by Peter Jordan and Steven Wheeler (Lorez Books, £16.95), gives an introduction to recognising and cooking the edible species. Mushrooms and Other Fungi of Great Britain & Europe by Roger Phillips (MacMillan, £13.99) is a more comprehensive guide. For details of forays, contact your local Forestry Enterprise, Wildlife Trust or Peter Jordan at Poppy Cottage, Station Road, Burnham Market, Norfolk PE31 8HA (01328 738841).

The little barn in the big wood

he Globe Theatre in Southwark will not he the only huilding of medieval design completed this year. Another - a small but stylish barn, also fashioned from green, unseasoned timber - is about to be topped out in Leigh Woods, on the southern outskirts of Bristol.

Shakespeare would certainly have been familiar with structures of this kind, which abounded in his day. But why put one up now, in the middle of a forest? Ask Clare Walter, the carpentry instructor who designed it.

Her inspiration, she says, was the Earth Summit conference at Rio in 1992, when Britain promised to plant 12 new community forests as a contribution to the environment. Fired with determination to produce a building "which really sang about the woods", she searched high and low for a site, until she struck lucky with Ben Lennon, the Forestry Commission'a beat forester for Bristol and the Mendips.

He it was who offered an open glade in the middle of Leigh Woods, which have been producing timber for at least a thousand years, and now are to form the core of the new Avon Community Forest. The area Lennon chose was one of trees hich had been coppiced but had on and were big enough to pro-imbers for the barn, so that the



DUFF HART-DAVIS

raw material came from the immedjate environs of the site.

The trees were cut last winter, and work on the structure began this spring. Helped by Henry Russell, a professional timber framer, and by sundry volunteers, several of whom simply joined in the work as they walked past. Clare shaped and laid out the main beams on the ground - a process that took three weeks. Then, over one weekend, the whole frame was raised and set in place on a foundation of dry-stone walls. The heams were fixed together with hand-cut pegs of oak and ash; the wall spaces between uprights were filled with thin slivers of oak woven into a lattice, and the roof was clad

with oak shingles, or tiles. As many different woods as possible were used for the main frame - chesmut, lime, ask, oak, cherry,

start to season, the building is tensioning itself and locking everything in place. Everyone who has helped with the project is pleased by its success. Clare speaks lyrically of the joys of cutting green wood, and of using the natural curve of tree-trunks, escaping from the tyranny of all-straight timber. For the Forestry Commission, the barn is not just a pleasant shelter for walkers and a centre for future workshops or study groups: it is also a demonstration of the fact that wood from a sustainable source - coppicing - can be used to

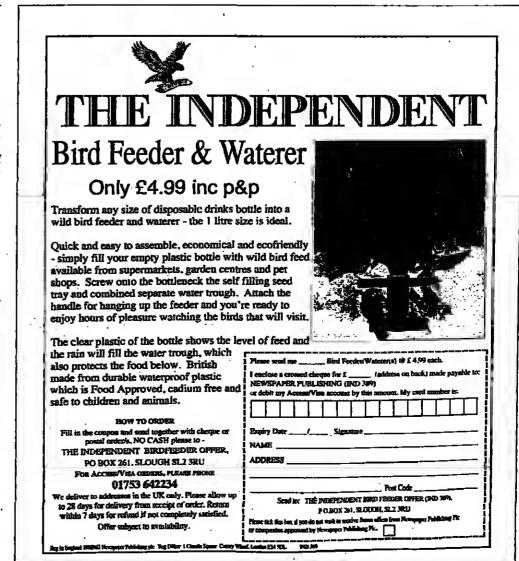
good effect. Further, the project offers a revealing glimpse of the way in which, over the past few years, the Commission has changed its methods. When it acquired 300 acres of Leigh Woods in the Fifties, its sole aim was to earn money from timber, and it planted every available space with conifers and beech. Today its policy has been imaginatively widened to include conservation of the environment and large-scale entertainment of the public.

Ironically enough, in the area where the barn now stands, nature defeated the Commission's worst efforts at smothering the landscape with alien trees. The long-term residents - mainly small-leafed limes were so vigorous that they sprouted

yew - and now, as the green timbers from the age-old stools, or stumps, and outgrew the planted species. Now the Commission, acknowledging the material and visual value of coppice, plans to keep the surrounding land under the traditional system of management.

Half a mile away to the east, close to Leigh Court (once the home of the Miles family, now a husiness centre), Lennon discovered what appeared to be the remains of an arboretum: a few giant redwoods and Lucombe (or evergreen) oaks still rose out of the sea of spruce and overgrown laurel. Sure enough, research revealed that Humphry Repton had laid out a woodland landscape here early in the 19th century, and that in the 1860s his successors had planted sequoia and noble fir, which had recently been hrought over from America.

Now Lennon has drawn up a management plan to restore the area to some of its former glory by clearing unwanted growth. Leigh Woods are already immensely popular, attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors. Most of these people do not realise how much is being done for them; but if they take refuge in the barn during a storm, or marvel at the size of a mighty redwood, they may get some inkling of how active the woodland managers have become on their behalf.



BEGINNERS: START HERE

oying yet again with the idea of that first skiing (or snowboarding)
I holiday? Here are teo rules to simplify the decision-making.

1. Do it oow; the later you start skiing, the harder it will he to learn and the more you'll regret the delay.

2. Don't go at Christmas/New Year, wheo prices are high, snow is unreliable and crowds are at their worst. Avoid February high season weeks, too, if you cao - especially in Fraoce.

3. Have your first lessons at home, on a dry slope – a hillside carpeted with plastic bristle - or at the Tamworth SnowDome (see opposite). It will give you a head start when you come to tackle the real

4. Go to a small, friendly resort where you'll quickly feel at bome. Look for oursery slopes at village level, and beginner lifts that are cheap or even

5. If possible, go somewhere that offers alternatives to skiing for those afternoons when you feel like a change or for the rest of the week if you don't take to sking after all.

6. Go for the right part of the market. Major Alpine resorts are great places in which to flex your flexible friend, but miserable places in which to economise At the other extreme, eastern Europe is very cheap, but primitive.

 Don't fail for self-catering, unless you are a dedicated cook - you'll spend a fortune eating out.

8. Reot equipment. The skis and boots that are suitable when you start skiing will got remaio suitable for long; buying them is throwing money away.

9. Rent it there, oot here, so that you can chop and change as you wish - until your boots are comfortable.

10. If you must buy clothes at least bave the sense to buy stuff that's generally useful outdoors, in case you never ski agaio - ie, no one-piece suits.

Summer's over: long live winter

The bad news is that summer officially ends today. The simple phrase 'autumnal equinox' evokes a chill, heralding darkening evenings, forlorn trees and the thermometer's long downhill run. The good news is that our winter sports coverage begins today. Our parallel turns for this season are Chris Gill, our longtime skiing correspondent and editor of 'Where to Ski', and our new ski columnist Stephen Wood. More people than ever are taking advantage of cheap long-



haul travel to extend the definition of winter sports. Accordingly, we have expanded our coverage to include activities where summer is just beginning or where it never ends.

hat's new? So how do you fancy starting your skiing day? Will it be hueberry muffins and maple syrup, lubricated by a pale imitation of coffee supplied in limitless quantities? Or a contrastingly intense spresso accompanied by a dry bread double espresso accompanied by a dry bread roll or two? Birchermuesli, I'm afraid, is off the

menu, as is pain au chocolat. I exaggerate. But there is no doubt that this season, as last, international exchange rates bave focused the expectations of the British skiing business on Canada (and to a lesser extent the US) and Italy, at the expense of the established Alpine favourites of Austria, France and Switzerland.

Crossing the Atlantic will never be the way to cat skiing costs to the bone, but it is oo longer a particularly extravagant way to holi-day, thanks to extremely competitive air

fares as well as Canada's weak currency. Last season, for the first time, the number of British skiers flying west (something like 35,000) exceeded the oumber going to Switzerland.

This season, the competitive pressures are increased by the return of transatlantic charter flights to ski areas, absent from the scene for several years. At the last count there were four charters a week planned by the big operators such as Inghams and First Choice, all of them heading for Calgary and giving access to the resorts around Banff, in one of the most spectacular parts of the Rockies.

British Columbia, further west, is still dominated by the resort that put Canada on the UK

skiing map, Whistler - one of the few impressively large ski areas in north America. But UK tour operators are now spreading their wings and tempting skiers to explore "unknown" ski areas such as Big White, Silver Star and Sun Peaks, by offering safari-style holidays giving three or four days in three or four places. And the resorts of eastern Canada - notably Mont Tremblant - are no longer ignored.

Despite a stronger currency, the US also offers good-valoe holidays, particularly in the areas where the resorts and airlines are hungriest for business - California and New England, where the number of visitors from Britain has shot up.

Both areas are well worth considering, California has the higger ski areas (Mammoth, Heavenly, Squaw Valley), but New England

has attractions for families (in resorts such as Smugglers' Notch), and for those who may like to tour several resorts by car.

The cream of American resorts, of course, are still those of Colorado. Vail, Aspen's rival for the absolute top slot, seizes the initiative this winter with the linking of Beaver Creek (already an underrated ski area) to Arrowbead, adding an extra 300 acres of skiing. Skiers who want to be at the frontier should consider Big Sky, up in Montana, which now claims the greatest vertical drop in the States (1,275m). Or perhaps Crystal Holidays' latest PR wheeze: Alyeska, in Alaska - at 75m, the second-lowest ski resort in the world (after Voss in Norway) but, with an annual 14m of snow, one of the snowiest.

Unless the Padanian lira turns out to be stronger than the Italian one, the British skiers who forsake Söll and La Piagne to flock to Livigno and Sauze d'Oulx in northern Italy this winter will find prices refreshingly modest. (I can still remember my sbock, last December, when I realised that I had bought two coffees in an Italian mountain restaurant for £1.25.) They woo't find such extensive skiing - though if they were to head for the magnificent but less popular Dolomites they would – but they will find welcoming people and modern lifts.

Of course, most of us will not be deflected from our Alpine favourites. The skiing in France, in particular, is simply the best there is, whether you favour the boulevards of the Trois Vallées or the steeps above Chamonix. The latter takes a momeotous step this season by linking (by lift, though not by piste) the two main areas above the town, Breveot and Flégère - so you'll oo longer oeed to pick one area or the other at the start of the day. There are improvements up the valley at Argentière, too, with a oew mid-mountain complex and a powerful oew goodola above it. Austria, once the most popular destination with Brits, ow plays second fiddle to France, and this year may even be pushed into third place by Italy. But for one Austrian resort, at least, this will be a seasoo to remember. Kitzbühel bas finally consigned its Hahnenkamm cable-car to the museum, where it should have gooe a decade ago. It has been replaced by an efficieot goodola, thus bringing to an eod one of the last great lift queues of the Alps. Switzerland suffered a disproportionate

drop in business last season. It is widely perceived as the most expensive destination of all, but in practice is on more expensive than France, and in some respects (eg upmarket botel prices) appreciably cheaper. And it is blessed with some of the most distinctive resorts and glorious sceoery. Zermatt offers both, and its fans will understandably not go elsewhere; this season, access to some of the best skiing, on the 3100m Unterrothorn, will be transformed by the opening of a jumbo 150person cable-car.

Chris Gill

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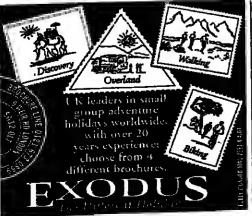
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L THEFT Scote." A PROPERTY.

It looks like snow, it feels like snow, it probably even tastes like snow — it's virtually good enough for skiing

o how's the skiing season been for you so far? If you've folowed a traditional September routine
-a int of brochures, a few exercises - I'm way ahead of you. I've already done the downhill in Hamley's toy shap in London, worked on my paral-lel turns in the sitting room, and travelled to the snowy piste of Tamworth, in Staffordshire.

STEPHEN

Maybe I've peaked too soon. The snows of Tamworth lie, all the year round, underneath the roof of the SnowDome, one of only four such centres in the world. It's a bizarre place: imagine a shopping centre in the second ice age - familiarity with J G Ballard's early postapocalypse science fictions such as The Drought and The Drowned World helps here - and you'll get the idea. Inside the huge, windowless shed an L-shaped slope, covered in snow, runs down from the first floor to the basement, alongside it, moving walkways carry skiers back up. Powerful arc lights (as used in car parks with security problems) maintain a permanent, blinking brightness, night and day; the temperature is kept at a constant four degrees. There is even the murmur of shoppingcentre Muzak in the background.

Remarkable though all this artifice is, what draws skiers to Tamworth and prises a minimum of £12.50 per hour out of their pockets is the promise of "REAL SNOW" (Snow-Dome's promotional material uses big letters for the big attraction). And who can blame them? It's fantastic.

True, the slope is a little mean; only 150 metres long and 30 metres wide, so even skiing down sedately took a maximum of 44 seconds. (The journey back up takes two-and-a-half minutes.) But the surface, 16 centimetres deep, is delightfully authentic. It looks like it, it feels like it, it skis like it, it probably even tastes like it - it's REAL SNOW. Ski resort conditions are faithfully recreated: it's powdery at the top, but hard, rutted and full of beginners at the bottom, down by the timber-clad wall of the Tirol Suite, Tamworth's après-ski scene.

Commercial security demands that "as with Coca Cola, the REAL SNOW formula is a total secret", according to the promotional material.



Stephen Wood (left) samples what could be the most expensive ski slope on Earth

ing process developed for one of the other indoor snow slopes, in Adelaide - and jealously protects them. Apparently the SnowDome has many potential rivals. Its general manager, Gordon Greig, who holdly predicts that "indoor ski slopes will be the biggest thing in leisure this (I should have tasted it.) First Leisure, Snow-decade", believes that more than 40 planning Dome's owner, has the UK rights to a snow-mak-applications have been made for them in the UK.

I could only scratch the surface of the mystery, and discovered that there is a man-made glacier beneath the snow. Which may be important: John Liewellyn of Leamore Developments, which opened the SnowDome in 1994, admitted that the snow's secret "is not just how you make it, but how you maintain it". In Japan, where the indoor slopes are bigger (500 metres acceptable. In the high season, between Decem-

long), better (two pistes) and much more expensive (£190 million to build, £70 per hour to use), their snow-making process demands authentic mountain-top temperatures of minus eight degrees - which "wouldn't have been acceptable in Britain", according to Mr Llewellyn.

Tamworth's Snowdome has proved more than

ber and February, it is not uncommon for visi-tors to have forwart an hour to get on to the slope, whose capacity is limited to 180.

If you still think you can resist, consider the

If you still think you can resist, consider the following. If you are a beginner, you can learn to ski or snowboard there behind closed doors, without an audience of Continentals whn got on to the ski glopes as sonn as they'd gnt off the breast. If you've ever been on a dry ski slope—well, you don't have to go through that night-mare again. If you always ride your first ski lift of the season worrying whether you can still ski (don't we all?), forget it. And if you're Japanese, it's amazingly cheap.

Compared with the REAL SNOW experience, the rest of the build-up to the season bas

ence, the rest of the build-up to the season bas been rather abstract. Down in the bowels Hamley's store I found the "Alpine Racer" arcade game, and skied the pistes at its electronic resort. You can do downhill or slalom, with your feet on platforms which not only steer but also "edge". Its big video screen offers a stirring simulation, plus hints on technique: "Avoid unnecessary turns", "Use the ski edges to turn sharper". The sound effects are excellent; but the anthenticity is snmewhat diminished by the fact that you can still steer while flying through the air. And he warned: at about fl a minute, a day on the Alpine Racer would be only marginally cheaper than a week in the Alps.

But you probably know about Alpine Racers.

They're like buses: one comes along, and then suddenly there are lots of them. I heard a familiar electronic tune in a service station on the motorway up to Tamworth: it was coming from the Alpine Racer machine. There was another in the lobby of the SnowDome.

And if you are a reader of the Innovations catalogue, you may also be familiar with the Skinetic Trainer, priced at £79.95. The copy suggests: "Before that precious holiday on the slopes, develop and refine your skiing abilities". I had a Ski-netic in the living room for a couple of days and — with the curtains drawn — practised parallels on the spot. It's a cunningly simple device, designed by an architect to encourage his wife to keep up with him. Is it doing me any good? I don't know - and I won't until somebody compliments me on my refined skiing abilities. It's never happened before.

The SnowDome is at Lelsure Island, River Drive, Tamworth, Staffs B79 7ND (tel: 0990 000011), It is open 9am-1pm every day.

My only sunshine — going south by degrees for a winter warmer

By Simon Calder

1.2

reminds the France of US

Marine S

her higher

Outhbound seats are being sold off cheap this winter, with more com-Upetition and lower fares than ever. If your winter thermostat is set to a higher degree than the average skier, then migrate south by degrees.

20 north: Cuba

The last bastion of communism moves a little closer to Crawley on Hallowe'en, when Cubana starts flying from Gatwick to Havana. These flights are already heavily booked, but Kuoni (01306 742222) has an allocation and is selling six-night holidays for £479 in November. The island's beaches are rightly renowned, but the opportunities for hiking and biking are only slowly being recognised.

10 north: Philippines
The great thing about the winter's fares war to Australasia is that you can stop almost anywhere you care to mention en route to Australia or New Zealand. Philippines Airlines, for example, is selling through discount agents for about £645 (including tax) for any time in winter apart from the month around Christmas. Manila, where you are allowed to stop over, vies with Bangkok and Taipei as the foulest of the Asian capitals. But much of the rest of the archipelago is blissful in absolute, as well as relative, terms. There are many worse places to learn to scuba dive.

The Equator
One of the strangest phenomena in travel is that it has take so long for the joys of reconstructed Uganda to be explored by the British. None of the crowds and few of the problems have strayed across the border from Kenya. One fine sport is seeing how often you can cross the Equator - it is marked on highways through the country by big concrete Os. But an adventure that, since the fighting in neighbour-ing Rwanda, is now exclusive to Uganda is gorilla tracking. The downside is that fares to Entebbe are around the £550 mark, compared with as little as £400 for discount tick-

ets to Nairobi. 10 south: Maceió

Conventional wisdom suggests that the best beaches in Brazil, and possibly South America, are the twin pearls of Ipanema and Copacabana in Rio de Janeiro. For the seasoned travciles, they are indeed places of excitement and fascination, but for anyone who sees the search for the perfect tering a yacht to swish around this most





The Philippines (top) and Cuba

beach as a quest for relaxation these urban strands are no good at all. Instead, sidle up the coast to Maceió, almost straddling the 10 degree line. Hereabouts the beaches look as though they go on forever, and the further you look the fewer people you see. At present Maceió is hard to reach, but watch these pages for details of direct flights from London to the nearby gateways of Fortaleza or Recife.

20 south: Queenstand

Using one of those bargain flights to Australia, hop off at Cairns or Brisbane and make for Townsville. Ten minutes should do nicely in this town of modest charms, before you move on to Proserpine - jumping off point for the Whitsundays. Follow in the wake of Captain Cook's Endeavour by char-

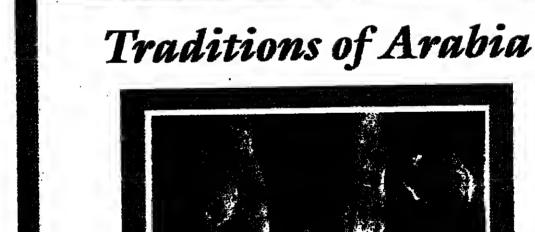
benign of seas, softened by the Great Barrier Reef. If that sounds too serious, then take a day-trip with an experienced skipper who will steer while you sip the unlimited chilled beer.

Take advantage of keen fares in Santiago de Chile (£500 or less through discount agents) and tackle the summer slopes on foot or horseback.

40 south: New Zealand

30 south: the Andes

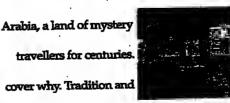
The usual way to compute fares to NZ used to be to take the price to Australia and add a hundred or two. This winter, though, quality airlines are sell-ing furiously to both Anckland and Christchurch for less than £750 return - the same as for Sydney or Melbourne. And in the country that popularised bungee-jumping, there is never any shortage or exhilaration.





HENNA A reddish dye obtained from powdered leaves, henna has traditionally been used by the women of Arabia to stain the palms of the hands and the soles of the feet for weddings and other festivals. The simple geometric patterns of the past have given way over the years to more flowery designs.

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Someone to watch over you

Is official advice to travellers worth taking seriously? By Simon Calder

which winds north through Laos from Vicotiane to Vang Vieng, is singled out as being relatively safe - at least compared with the onward journey to Luang Prahang, where the visitor risks attack by bandits. On balance, journeys should be made by air wherever

This information arrived on my desk on Monday. Not a dispatch from some hattlehardened correspondent tottering through Indo-China in search of a story, but from a nicely refurbished office in Palace Street, SW1 - just across the fence from the Queen's Loodoo

As your passport will testify, the Foreign Sec-retary "requests and requires in the name of Her Majesty, all those whom it may concern" to allow British citizens to travel freely and safely. But oo the hasis that this invocation carries less immediate weight than a loaded Kalashnikov, the Government also employs people to try to protect us. If the world cannot immediately be made a safer place, the theory goes, then at least we should be told which parts to avoid. Yet are we being told the whole truth, and nothing but?

"Selective, patchy, sloppily compiled, ofteo out-of-date and slow to catch up, far too brief." Richard Trillo, who writes for the Rough Guides, pronounced himself unimpressed with the advice that the Foreign Office provides to the traveller. One reason for these perceived shortcomings, he suggests, is political manoeuvring carried out "in the furtherance of commercial and diplomatic ends".

"Complete rubbish," retorted a Foreign Office

It seemed diplomatic to get the two parties together, and to eavesdrop on the subsequent



A soldier at North/South Korea

oad 13 is lucky for some British travellers. Travel Advice Unit to see how the system less. Oo Ceefax receotly, the would-be visitor. This battered old excuse the a highway, works, and to argue about its effectiveness. I to Prague was advised that he or the "should be visitor." tagged along.

The system has a lean simplicity: British missions abroad report about the risks on their patch. Sometimes these warnings come in response to specific events, such as kidnappings or killings of British subjects abroad. More usually, they are routine reports, such as the ooe which arrived on Monday warning of the "high level of violent street crime" in the West African state of Guinea.

A small staff compiles the information and distributes it: faxes are dispatched to the travel trade and newspapers; details are processed for the screen, both BBC2 Ceefax and the Internet; and files are updated to respond to calls from individual tourists, 79,000 of whom phoned the advice unit last year. Details of how you can keep yourself informed are given below. But what most concerns Mr Trillo is the quality of the

Selective and patchy: advice issued by the Foreign Office does not cover the globe. Why should places such as Korea and Cyprus be overlooked, even though each is a divided nation with a tense front line? Some years ago the FO produced notes on every country in the world, but stopped because the results were little used. Jeremy Hanley, the minister responsible for consular services, says that he sees little value in consistency for its own sake and that there is "no need and no demand for FO advice on every country". In the case of Cyprus, advice was issued following violence on the Green Line and an outbreak of meningitis last month. It has now been withdrawn. But British visitors to the island (almost I million of them last year) can still obtain a Dos and Don'ts leaflet from the FO.

carry identification at all times, preferably a photocopy of their passport, with the passports being securely stored i.e. [sic] in a hotel safe etc."
The FO says the poor English was a result of editing errors by Ceefax, and stands by its policy of brevity. "Our experience shows that we can best get our message across by keeping it short and clear, rather like news headlines which flag up the key points," a spokesman explains. The

service aims to point up potential problems

rather than give chapter and verse. Sloppily compiled, often out-of-date and slow to respood: A prime piece of evidence for this, says Mr Trillo, is the advice on Western Sahara. This disputed slice of Africa, pinched between Morocco and Mauritania, is one of the 10 countries that the Government says is too dangerous to visit. Yet at least nine British overland companies traverse Western Sahara, carrying hundreds of travellers en route for southern Africa. Mr Trillo points out that they do this on the basis of years of experience, and would not jeopardise clients' safety. The British Embassy in Morocco has subsequently tweaked its advice, but the FO says "our assessment is that the area is best avoided. The fact that some overland travellers choose to ignore our advice

does not in itself make the place safe." Which brings us to the crucial question of political pressure. The word of the Foreign Office is law as far as most tour operators are concerned. Once the FO says "don't go". Thomson and the other holiday companies organise airlifts to bring home clieots already at the destination and cancel subsequent flights. The most notable recent "victim" of this policy was the Gambia, whose visitor numbers from Britain Far too brief: Mr Trillo cites the advice for were greatly reduced after a little local difficulty conversation. So when Mr Trillo called in on the the Czech Republic as being "particularly worth- in winter 1994/95. The Foreign Office maintains

that its advice against travel there was justified because of the potential risks to British holiday-makers; the Gambian tourist industry, and oumerous correspondents to The Independent, contend that the decision was a politically motivated reprisal against a regime that the British Government didn't like.

The FO rejects completely the suggestion that our advice is subordinated to commercial and diplomatic eods, and are concerned that such a perception still exists. Our paramount concern is the safety of British nationals overseas. We have had protests from foreign gov-ernments about our advice, which should in itself testify to its integrity and independence." Jeremy Hanley firmly refutes the suggestion that the Government would actually prefer us all to stay at home - indeed, his daughter is currently travelling through Asia.

Richard Trillo and the Foreign Office have agreed to differ on the travel advice policy. He wants much more comprehensive information, along the lines of the detailed briefings issued by the US State Department. The FO want to preserve the status quo. But since the visit, there have been some changes. Cootact details for all UK missions now appear on the Internet.

I get the distinct impression that the travel advice bulletins that arrive oo my desk are hecoming increasingly precise, and therefore more valuable. When I finally make it to Laos, I shall beware of "unexploded ordnance, particularly in Xieng Khouang Province and areas of the Laos-Vietnam border that were formerly traversed by the Ho Chi Minh trail". Be careful out there.

> Find Foreign Office travel advice on tel: 0171-238 4503, fax: 0171-238 4545, on BBC2 Ceefax from page 564 onwards, or at http://www.fco.gov.uk/ on the Internet.

LAST RESORT Eilat, Egypt

s the driver of the coach taking us from the airport to our hotel switched oo his stereo, I appreciated that this holiday was going to be a little different. The fluttering strains of a very bad disco version of "Scotland the Brave" began to wow from tinny speakers, as we sped through the dark moonscape. Egypt was just a hundred yards away over a feoce running all the way alongside the road, as we descended from a hiblical desert plateau down to the northern tip of the Gulf of Aqaha, and the hot winter package destination of Eilat.

When you land at Ovda airport, the sight of F-14s poking out of underground bunkers, and antiaircraft missile batteries beside the runway, alerts you to the fact that Israel is not going to be quite like Marbella or Corfu. As you descend to the coast the landscape does become familiar and Mediterraneanlooking. Eilat is much like Benidorm used to be about 25 years ago. That is, hefore Benidorm spent billions (of: pesetas) oo a hig image improvement. But with ooe subtle difference: Eilat has a runway running right through the middle of it. Yes, you could find yourself being geotly rocked from your slumbers at 6am by a Boeing 737 hurtling past your hotel window less than a thousand yards away. One small comfort is that this is the town's original airport and so is too small for larger jets (which is why most Brits arrive at the military airport of Ovda, back up in the hinterland).

Once settled in, let the usual British urge to paddle take over, and head for what passes as a beach. It is remarkable to stand oo the narrow strip of gravel that is the beach, looking out over the turquoise waters of Agaba, and to be able to sec four different countries at once. To your right, about seveo miles away, is the horder with Egypt. Immediately to your left, only two or three miles away, the streets and houses of the Jordanian town of Aqaba, King Hussein's seaside palace stands out quite clearly on the waterfront. And following the coastline south some ten miles you see the distant hills of Saudi Arabia, shrouded by the mists of Arabian fable and legend, and also the discharge of a huge (presumably oil-hurning) power station.

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What brought me to Eilat was not geographical novelty but the simple fact that it is one of the hest winter destinations around at the moment, in terms of both cost and sun. It is ahout as far south as the Canaries, comes at about the same price, but is sunnier and has almost clear water just warm enough to put more than a toe into.

The truly Unique Selling Proposition is the Bible. As you wander about this completely modern and rapidly developing holiday resort, you pass little bureaux organising car bire, cultural evenings and excursions. The list of those excursions, though written on a poster in felt-tip and stuck in the window with masking tape, is still a wonder to behold: day trips to Mount Sinai, where Moses saw the burning hush and received the word of God in the form of the Ten Commandments, and to Jerusalem, the Dead Sea or Masada. And overnight trips to Cairo, Petra or Bethlehem. But to bring you back to the late 20th century, try just the newly opened crossing from Eilat to Aqaba - a ennsciousness-raising experience in itself. The hundred yards of nu-man's-land hetween the Israeli and Jordanian border posts reminded me of those Checkpoint Charlie movies, exchanging spics and just waiting, on your interminably long walk, for the crack of an East German border guard's rifle. Travel and politics are uneasy

Peter Martin

Death in Venice? Tourists would be wise to read the local papers

t was a strangely beautiful sight: between two and three hundred Italian riot police in firmmaculate blue uniforms, formed into a classic (and classical) Roman phalanx, and occupying every last square millimetre of the Accademia bridge in Venice. The sky was blue, the water of the Grand Canal was blue, the boys with the plastic shields, tear gas guns and three-foot truncheons wore blue.

It was clearly a beautiful sight, for mildly bewildered tourists trying to cross the timber bridge last Sunday saw this immaculate formation of urban commandos as a great photo-opportunity. Was it some sort of fancydress parade, part of a new September camivale? As modern cameras wheezed and flashed, the raguzzi in blue stood impassively behind an upright young ufficer talking purposefully into a radio-mike.

The unusual scene was animated by the basso-profundo flapping of helicopters hovering over Si Mark's Square and the stroboscopic flash of hlue lights as energetic police boats raced along streets full of water.

"This is just great," said an American student from under a vast baseball cap. "Sure." said his buddy in Day-Glo leisurewear, perched on high-rise trainers, "hut I kinda wonder what's going on?"

As they spoke, the police phalanx appeared twitchy, as if it might move very fast in our direction at any moment. At which point, a Japanese tour guide - one of those imperious ladies with a piercing voice and an umbrella brandished high like some medieval banner – led a troop of Japanese tourists from out of the Accademia gallery and marched them up to the bridge. Clearly her platoon was working to a very hurried schedule: Accademia (Bellini, Carpaccio, that sort of thing) dispatched in 20 minutes; next stop St Mark's famous square with 10 minutes for videoing the pigeons, before a forced march through the Doge's Palace and a photo-opportunity at the Bridge of Sighs.

Onwards they marched, these impervious Japanese, eyes glued unwaveringly to the latest generation of video-cameras. Theirs not to reason why, theirs but to make photography,

into the Accademia phalanx they strode.

Forced to a halt by the police troop, the gallant tour guide tried to force her way through.

She did not address the officer in charge, nor did she seem to see the armed regard: she had a timetable to stick to and Italian people, police included, must not get in the way. This unseemly blockade, she feared, might delay the

embarkation of the post-pasta gondola flotilla.

As for her charges, they videoed to the left of

them, they videoed to the right of them, refusing point-blank to look ahead into that solid wall of military blue. It was as if the riot police did not exist. Unable to breach this ineffable wall of muscle and shields, the tour guide finally marched her band to the boat stop: now those statutory 10 minutes in St Mark's would have to be cut in two.

The Japanese seemed unable to acknowledge the presence of riot police in Venice last Sunday, whilst other tourists I spoke to were mystified by this unlikely phenomenon. Yet, at the bottom of the steps of the Accademia bridge is a news-stand, and pasted to the front and sides of that news stand, in full view of tourists from all points occidental and oriental, were posters calling attention to the invasion of Venice by the green-shirted hrigades of the appropriately named Signor Bossi. Bossi is the right-wing separatist whose aim is to create a breakaway northern Italian

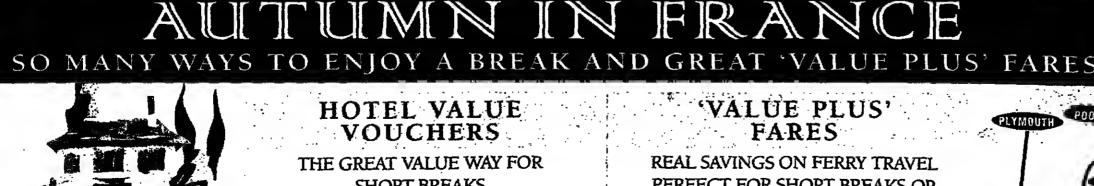
state, which he calls Padania.

A light did break out in the port of Chioggia, at the far end of the Venetian lagoon, between riot police and a 40,000-strong band of flagwaving padanianish; in Venice the threat

was effectively contained by the riot police. The truly disturbing thing was this: very few of the day trippers and holiday-makers and none of the video-crazy Japanese tourists appeared to have any idea that at any moment they might be caught up in a riot, in a fog of CS gas or even a hail of rubber bullets. Venice to them is a kind of crumbling and slightly smelly Disneyland, very historic, very amusing. But not a real place where political feelings can, and

do, run as high as the campanile of St Mark's. Holidays are a time for escape, yet it seems a wise idea for tourists to read the local newspapers, or at least to talk to local people and to ask for the latest state of play. Last Sunday, it was all too easy to imagine a group of tourists on a trip to the Bay of Naples on that fateful day in AD79 when Vesuvius chose to erupt, videoing whilst Pompeii hurned. And if-tourists are unable to read newspapers, perhaps tour companies should encourage their guides to do so. Riot police seen through the lens of the latest satellite-linked/digital/web-site/CD-ROM video camera may look strangely beautiful, especially when occupying Accademia bridge, but violence is only ever ugly.

Jonathan Glancey



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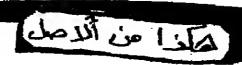


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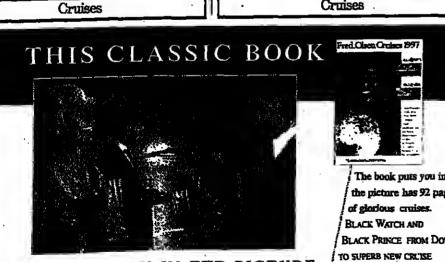
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our ticket says Britisb Airways, the two flight numbers on your itinerary are prefixed BA and the planes bave the familiar flag on the tail. Yet when you fly from Edinburgh via Gatwick to Valencia, your journey is with GB Airways, from Leeds to Berlin, CityFlyer Express and Deutsche BA will take

more care of you. As its route network stretches ever further around the globe, British Airways is well on the way to becoming a virtual airline. Sacking 5,000 staff might seem a strange way to expand a company. But this week's decision by BA to "let go" one in 11 of its employees is part of B strategy to get other people to deal with the messy business of actually flying passengers around the world. As the examples above show, the airline is already adept at "outsourcing".

Even if you find a flight that BA can still be bothered to operate itself, there is a good chance that the plane is owned by a leasing company rather than BA. Soon nothing but a reservations computer and a logo may remain of the world's favourite non-airline. As far as the passenger is concerned, does it matter if you are flying on the French airline TAT rather than BA itself? Well yes, it does rather. On my one outing on BA's French partner, Touraine Air Transport, it lived up to its acronym in dismal fashion.

That familiar BA prefix should sooo be a thing of the past, anyway. The reason is that there are just too many airlines. The supply of two-letter codes has been exhausted. Numbers have been introduced, which has served mainly to confuse travellers: 6F is both a seat number and the code for Laker Airways. So the whole system is being overhauled and airlines will be using three-letter codes.

For some, this is a happy event: the Dutch airline KLM. for example, gets a code that exactly matches its name. Perhaps strangely, Finnair insists it will continue with its old "AY" designation for the foreseeable future. even though the best guesses after an unscientific poll around the office were that AY stood for Air Yemen or Air Yukon.

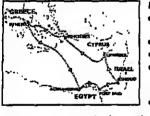
British Airways is left with the uncomfortable acronym BAW. But at least this is better than the Romanian airline Tarom. I understand that it drew the short straw and was left with the unhappy code of ROT. The outright airline winner

in this reorganisation is Bangladesh Biman, which currently rejoices in the code BG. Somehow, it has picked up one of the strongest brands in the world, Once the new system is in place, you will be able to fly on BBC1 from Dhaka to Heathrow, and back again oo BBC2.



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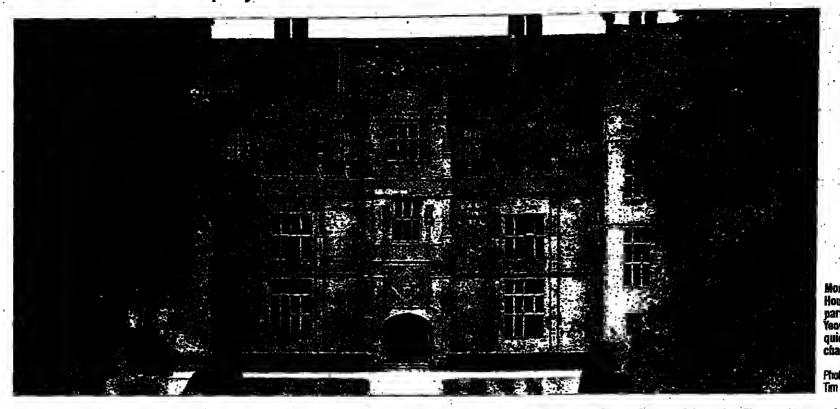
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Where the art of compromise lives on

In the first of a series on party leaders' constituencies, Teresa Allan visits Yeovil, whose MP is Paddy Ashdown



part of Yeovil's

the comforting and comfortable surroundings of the Hero tea room, three native-born Yeovilians at the next table are complaining about the quality of life in their corner of Somerset. "This place is a pig in a poke," said one. "I didn't come back to live bere by choice."

To the newcomer, this comment seems a little barsh. The secret life of Yeovil is quietly impressive. The polite Hero tea room itself, all pine tables and attentive waitress service, is probably unique in offering genteel catering around the clock. Yeovil is also in the grips of a prodigious biannual September arts festival which reaches a climax tomorrow.

The A30 was superseded as a superhighway long ago, oot just by the A303 but also the M4/M5. So now it merely meanders from Hounslow to Penzance by way of Yeovil. I booked at random, after dark, into the Aldondale Guest House,

of compromise is clearly alive and well here. The second surprise arrived next morning on the terrace at the rear of the house. The dense trees and bushes on a striking wooded hillside across the valley descend lusciously to the Yeovil plains. This part of the West Country is definitely not flat. (Yeovil Town FC's reputation as footballing giant-killers par excellence has often, fairly or otherwise, been attributed to their undulating (to put it politely) pitch, whichdisconcerts more proficient players; an analogy that springs to mind is of a small

political party which by a quirk of fate con-trols the balance of power.)

Venturing into the Quedam shopping centre at 7am, the doors are wide open at the Liberal Democrat Club (as well, of course, as they are at Hero's), but the bar was firmly closed. Yeovil's centre is unremarkably typical of hundreds of other British towns that The first pleasant surprise was a cut-price have been visited by chain stores and design-run the country. They lost.

room for £15 for a weary latecomer, the art ers of one-way-street systems. But at the tourist information centre, you can admire the rotund perfection of work by the distinguished local potter John Leach and find out how to reach his Muchelney Pottery...

A brochure proudly called South Somerset - Share the Secret describes the west of this area, accurately, as Hamstone country. This is a local stone of creamy, pink and yellow hues, which was quarried at nearby Ham Hill. During the arts festival, visitors can watch hamstone being skilfully sculpted at Ham Hill, and admire the nearby Tudor and Jacobean art collection at Montacute

House and the magnificent Iron Age fort. The fort is the starting point for a 28-mile path to Lyme Regis called the Liberty Trail. It was inspired by the 1685 Protestant rebellion against the Catholic King James II, when local people marched to meet the illegitimate (but Protestant) Duke of Monmouth and fight for him to

Fighting is still commemorated at the Fleet Air Arm Museum in Yeovilton, where you can experience what it is like to be catapulted at 200mph from a navy aircraft carrier at sea. I declined on the basis that I have never harboured the desire to follow Paddy Ashdown's slipstream into the SAS. The Butterfly Farm and Silk Museum, just outside Yeovil, is more restful if you

enjoy things with pretty wings.
South Somerset's claim to be the bome of Camelot and Arthurian legend is a little more spurious, since it is contested by Cornwall, Wales and the National Lottery. But it is beyond question the home of good cider. A visit, on the 58 bus, to Rosie's at Wincanton offers the prospect of mild inebriation and also illumination about the present Euro debate raging here: whether this region has the right to call its latest cider product "brandy". And on the way back to Yeovil oo the 58, there is a blissful view of the ruined Sherborne Abbey.



something to declare

Trouble spots

What they say about personal safety in

 All meals and entertainment Foreign Office: "Violeoce and

kidnapping remain serious problems in Colombia. In rural areas in particular there is a serious risk of being caught in terrorist or guerrilla attacks and opportunistic kidnapping. Three British citizens were captured in the last year. Visitors should

always take advice

travelling by road."

from the embassy and

local authorities before

The Independent's travel desk: "Colombia is one of the last, great undiscovered destinations and is South America's most enticing country. Almost everyone you will meet is friendly and helpful. Sadly, among a minority of Colombians,

kidnapping foreigners

is virtually a national

The best advice is simply to look as though you are not worth nabbing. Forget what your mother always told you, and become scrupulously

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lew York to New Orleans, Montreal to Miami and Charleston to Chicago are all available for a total of £130 on an Amtrak USA Eastern Rail Pass, available from agents such as Explorers Tours (01753 681999). It allows 15 days of unlimited travel within the region. If you want to visit only New England and the Washingtoo-New York corridor, the price falls to £110 for 15 days. Air fares are not incloded.

The best kind of old-fashioned park

If you really want to see the baby elephant that was on 'Blue Peter', then there's only one place you can go...

h no, not Chester Zoo. "Please oh please oh please. We want to see the baby ele-phant that was on Blue Peter and ride on the Zoofari railway." So we went, the adults in the party comforting themselves with thoughts of education, beautiful gardens, and conservation.

In the warm September sunshine, the animals are lazy. Tigers spread out like rugs in the sun. Lions hide in the shade. Baby elephant Karha saves the day by shaking a stick energetically until the dead leaves rattle.

The overhead railway promises excitement. gliding through the trees over the animals' enclosures. We see lemur island, but no lemurs. Maybe they're having a day off.

Still, the gardens look like one of the best kind

of old-fashioned parks, with municipal pink and orange blooms clashing magnificently. And you can just about imagine that the tree-lined avenues are in Paris. That is uotil you see that the families picnicking at the tables are eating cheese sandwiches and sausage rolls. The place is awash with under-fives. After all, what could be better than a long, hot day at the 200?

The visitors

Malcolm Millar, a university lecturer, and Caroline Millar a freelance writer, took their children, six year old Thomas and three year old Claire to Chester Zoo, the largest zoo in Britain.

Claire: It was a nice day out. I liked riding oo the train. The bad news is the lions because I'm frightened of them. I liked the baby monkeys. I liked the haby elephant best because her was tiny. Her was lovely. Her sniffed me and kissed me. I liked the mummy elephant as well and the elephant poo.

Thomas: I think the baby elephant was worst because it's boring. When I saw it in Blue Peter it made me want to see the zoo. I did expect that the free Blue Peter badges wouldn't be there anymore and they wereo't. But if I was the zoo-keeper I would let people come in and stroke Karha. The



train was excellent. I liked seeing almost every single animal. You koow the monkeys that jnmped onto a rope and swinged, I thought they were quite funny. The wasps weren't very nice, If I lived there I would have a stinging life because they would sting a lot,

Malcolm: September was a good time to come. It was definitely less crowded, although there were still queues for drinks and ice-cream. There were a lot of wasps who all seemed to swarm around Thomas at one point, It meant we had to leave the picnic area rather quickly, throwing what was left of Thomas's Cornetto in the bin.

You tend to think of a zoo as a place to go with young children, but they do get easily hored. You can't stay and watch one particular animal for long - the kids are always saying "what's next?" You do need to be selective in what you're going to see. If you tried to take in everything you'd all get too tired.

Caroline: Bearing in mind the volatile emotional Zoo does make great efforts to welcome families.

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Most areas are accessible to buggies and wheelchairs. And at busy times they provide face-paint-

ing, story-telling, and make-your-own souvenirs.
Unless you like goats, the Children's Zoo is a
bit bare. Luckily Claire adores goats, but Thomas was underwhelmed. And for such a large zoo, the playground is very small. This matters. You could show our children the Hanging Gardens of Baby-loo and they would ask where the playground was,

Mainly though, the problem was trying to find things that would simultaneously amuse a six-year-old and a three-year-old. Claire loved watching the baby animals, while Thomas wanted to ruo around wildly imitating the chimpanzees.
We decided that if you have children of different age-groups it is a good idea to split the party into times and older kids, so that both age groups can see what they want.

I have to admit I was moved wheo baby Karha reached her trunk out over the barrier and gently nuzzled Claire's leg. To be touched by an elephant was worth hours of David Attenborough.

The animals looked comfortable and welllife of small children, the day was a success. Chester cared for, and there was a good deal of informatioo oo them and their habitats.

The food in the cafeterias is basic jacket potatoes, Cornish Pasties, sandwiches. It cost £1.00 for a portion of chips so we made our excuses and rapidly left. There are plenty of pleasant picnic areas, one indoors. If it rains, the Zoo helpfully offer to sell you a waterproof poncho and rain

hat, and some of the attractions are under cover, Thomas and Claire loved seeing live animals close up. I think older children would beoefit far more from the activities and information available.

The deal

Location: At Uptoo by Chester. Entrances on the A41 and A5117. Cost. Adults £7.50, Pensiooers £5.50, Children

aged 3-15 £5.00. Under 3s free. A family ticket for two adults and three children costs £26.00. For further details: Telephone 01244 380280. Access: Wheelchair and buggy access to most parts of the zoo.

Food: Two cafeterias and a restaurant. Toilets: All you could want. Plentiful, clean, well sign-posted. Baby Changing rooms and disabled toilets.

A weekly round-up of outings for children

ARE WE NEARLY THERE?

Science exhibits Eureka: The Museum for children

sitors are actively encouraged Young visitors are actively encouraged to teach, listen and smell as well as look to taken, listen and smell as well as look and share their discoveries with adults. A highlight, among the 400 interactive activities. Me and My Body, which illustrate the workings of the human body. Conderen can step inside a giant mouth to and a wobbly tooth, play pinball eigestioo and learn how the joints work by riding a skeleton bike. Introduced by Scoot, the talking robot. Discover Rd, Halifax HX1 2NE (01422-30069/01426-983191) Childreo 3-12, £4.75, ander 3s free. Saver ticket for up to four visitors, £14.95. Open 7 days a week mam-5pm

Snibsden Discovery Centre This all-weather science and industrial heritage museum offers children the chance to walk through a tornado, travel on a virtual train or be transported to a 19th-century coalface. Outside there's a Colliery tour conducted by ex-miners and a Wild Water playground in which children can learn about the importance of water in our everyday lives. Today there's a special bird watch where childreo can identify kingfishers, song thrushes and the rarely seen Hobby.
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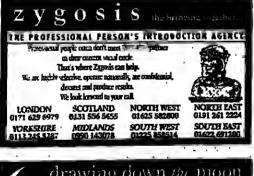
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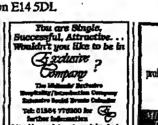
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when the dividend yield on Wall Street is lower than it

was before the crash in 1929, professional

There can be few doubts about who has been the talk of the town this week in the investment management husiness. The man making the headlines has been Tony Dyc, the man responsible for investment policy at PDFM, the UK fund management arm of the Swiss bank UBS. He, as I mentioned just a few weeks ago, is the fund manager who since the start of last year has been not just consistently but exceptionally and openly bearish about Wall Street.

As the New York market has continued to power up, defying all the doomsayers, his contrarian position found comfort bas inevitably attracted increasing attention. His heavily underweight osition in American shares, couin huddling pled with his large holdings of cash, has pushed his firm well down the industry's performance league tables in recent months, leading, so it seems, to mutterings from some of his clients.

As PDFM shares with Mercury Asset Management the title of the largest pension fund manager in the country, we are talking about one of the heaviest hitters in the whole London market, and therefore about large sums of money.

PDFM manages a total of £51bn for its pension funds clients. Thanks to the strategy endorsed by Mr Dye, it now holds over 15 per cent of this pile in cash, the highest level for many years.

It is, one suspects, of only marginal comfort to PDFM that the reason their man is in the headlines is because of his investment policy - rather than because of some scandal in the way its funds have been administered.

What makes PDFM's stance stand out is not so much what Mr Dye and his colleagues think ahout Wall Street and stock markets gen erally, hut the certainty with which they have stuck to their bearish views, and the extent to which they have been prepared to back them when it comes to implementing their investment strategy.

Most UK fund managers, as it happens, are also wary about the level of the American stock market. The statistics show that UK pension funds collectively have been net sellers of US shares for five of the last six quarters, and their holdings of US shares have fallen from roughly 7 per cent of their portfolios to just 4 per cent in the last four years.



JONATHAN DAVIS **INVESTMENTS**

Managers of investment trusts and unit trusts have also heen scaling hack their holdings in North America because of concerns about the high valuations being put on most Wall Street stocks. At the same time their holdings of cash have roughly doubled over the same

But few professional investment managers have taken this view to the same extremes as Mr Dye. So concerned is he about valuation levels that he has cut his holdings of US equities to virtually nothing, and raised his cash holdings to two-and-

half times the industry average. This stance only makes sense, in investment terms, on the assumption that the US and other stock markets are going to fall quite sharply in the near future.

Amid all the headlines, Mr Dye remains defiantly certain that he is doing the right thing, And quite rightly too. He is being paid handsomely to hack his investment judgement, and it would be ridiculous to change his mind or his methods just because everyone else. seems to be taking a different line. All the great investors in history have made their money by having the courage to hack their convictions when the herd was going down a different route.

Much of Mr Dye's reputation in fact rests on his ability to successfully outcall the rest of the market. He correctly anticipated the crash in the Tokyo stock market, for example, selling all his holdings there well before the Japanese market began its free-fall in 1989. The subsequent drop saw the market's value decline by 60 per cent before the tide finally turned last year.

One reason Mr Dye's stance now looks so lonely is that, while he has

been sticking bravely to his guns, other fund managers have been becoming increasingly consensual in their approach. Their investment strategies and therefore their performances have been moving closer and closer to each other over the last two years, making it virtually impossible to distinguish

one from another. This is exactly what you would expect when markets are moving out of their traditional valuation ranges. At a time when the dividend yield on Wall Street is lower than it was before the Wall Street crash in 1929, professional investors naturally find comfort in huddling together like sheep. If things go wrong, they know they won't get fired if everyone else has made the

same mistake that they have. There is one other point in Mr Dye's defence. It is easy to forget that the money he is investing belongs to pension funds, not to speculators. Pension funds more than anyone need to take a longterm view of their investments. Their priority is to meet their longterm future liabilities without undue risk, not just to top a short-term performance table. The big unknown

is whether Mr Dye is right or not. There are two clear schools of thought. One says that Wall Street remains wildly overvalued, and is heading for a serious tumble, probably at the first sign of an increase in US interest rates (now widely expected to be imminent). Many smart investors, including Sir James Goldsmith, are known to share this view. The other school prefers to take the view that current valuations, while high by historical standards, can be justified because of special factors - the high level of one-off dividends, share buy-backs

and so on. Who is right? It is quite possible that the bull market will go on ris-ing for a while before it finally stumbles. Robin Griffiths, my chartist friend at James Capel, now thinks Wall Street could shoot well over 6,000 before the hull finally expires next year. Mr Dye, we can be sure, is well ahle to look after himself. More worrying is the fact that he now seems so isolated. When professional investors behave more and more like sheep, it is normally a sure sign that a sharp movement in the market is on the way.

How to find a new home without getting into a flat spin

lan Hunter on avoiding pitfalls for the unwary in the rented home market

flat-seekers as the annual crop of students joins the growing numbers of people, most but not all of them young, looking for a place of their own. It should be an exciting experience, yet there are still plenty of pitfalls for the unwary entering the rented property market.

There is more property available for rent than there used to be but it is only a small slice of the total property market. Finding a flat is not always easy, particularly in a large city or a student town.

Often flat-hunters turn to flat agencies. Anyone using an agency should scrutinise carefully the terms of the agreement to ascertain in what circumstances a fee is payable. These agencies are subject to the Accommodation Agenagencies from demanding or accepting money in return for registering the name modation. It also prohibits agencies should he signed by both parties. It is

properties for rent.

Most landlords grant their tenants an agreement in the form of an assured shorthold tenancy. These agreements give the tenant a minimum of six months' security of tenure. However, at any time after the first four months of the tenancy agreement, the tenant can be asked to leave on two months' notice.

Tenants should, at the outset, be clear lease. Usually the payment of bills such as gas, telephone, electricity and council tax will be the tenant's responsibility. However, the tenants should also be clear about other items such as responsibility for water rates and any repairs that may be necessary. Tenants will norcies Act 1953, which expressly prohibits mally be responsible for effecting their own household contents insurance.

It is important at the outset to agree and details of anyone looking for accom- an inventory of the flat's contents which

This is the husiest time of the year for from charging for supplying lists of often advisable to take photographs of quent dispute as to the condition of the property at the outset of the letting. Many landlords will insist on taking a deposit as security for any damage caused to the property during the tenancy.

Landlords are often reluctant to release the deposit at the end of the tenancy. It is therefore hest, if possible, to avoid paying it out at the outset. If the regarding their responsibilities under the landlord will not agree to this, an alternative is to pay the deposit into a joint account: by this arrangement neither party can obtain access to the money without the agreement of the other. Another option is to offset the last

instalment of rent due against the deposit withheld. If the deposit is unjustifiably withheld and no amicable agreement is possible, an action can be commenced in the small claims court. The necessary papers can be obtained from the local county court. The procedure is intended



to be quite informal and is not as legal-

istic as normal court procedures. either fail to act or are slow in carrying ants take such steps they should first give hle. If this happens, provided the lease needed. The landlord should then be the rent outstanding the landlord may sell does not expressly forbid it, a tenant can given a reasonable amount of time to them at the best price possible.



in certain circumstances set off the costs of doing the repairs himself against the A common complaint is that landlords rent that is payable. However, before tenthe landlord notice that repairs are

carry out the necessary work. Tenants can also seek to set off in respect of any loss suffered as a result of the landlord failing to honour his ohligations. This may include items such as damage caused to property as a result of a leaking roof,

Failure to pay the rent will give the landlord, subject to compliance with certain procedures, the right to evict the tenant. Normally the landlord will obtain a court order. The landlord is also permitted to send in bailiffs in order to seize goods to the value of the rent outstanding. The landlord is not permitted to use force and cannot, under this remedy, arrive on a Sunday or after dark.

Once the goods have been seized the landlord must wait at least five days before selling the goods or up to 15 days if requested by the tenant. If the goods have not been repurchased by the tenant within this time limit for a sum equal to

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It's a chill wind that bodes higher insurance premiums

The cost of household policies is set to rise. By how much depends on the weather, warns Tony Lyons

the days of relatively low premiums for household insurance are coming to an end. According to the ABI, as theft damage rose 20 per cent un last from houses is rising faster io rural rates offered by a number. This is areas, The hig difference between particularly true when the insurance is numbered as part of a murtage ing to Tonchline Insurance the market bottomed nut in June, and insurance companies are all looking for domestic premium increases

over the coming winter.
The costs for both huilding and contents insurance have been reduced over a number of years due to a number of reasons. On the one hand, claims experience has been favourable. Until recently, the insurance companies have seen claims stabilising and even declining in some areas such as subsidence.

At the same time, the rise uf direct marketing insurers such as Direct Line, Admiral and others hill Insurance, the average prehas led to the large composite mium paid for bousehold insurance insurers such as General Accident establishing their own direct sales operations. All this increased competition has contributed to premiums falling to their current levels.

Now this is coming to an end. According to figures recently released by the Association of British Insurers, the trade body representing the main insurance companies, payouts for claims on property insurance jumped significantly in the second quarter of this year.

Its figures showed that theft claims rose 13 per cent compared with the second quarter of 1995, claims for fire damage increased by 30 per cent, there was a rise of 105 per ceot in claims for weatherrelated damage and domestic subsidence claims were up 133 per cent.

There are a number of things a
householder can do to reduce the
sales team has a daily quota to fill.

In the late afternoon, if they are

To put the figures into context,

severe winter were £419m in the first quarter of 1996 and declined

to £113m in the spring.
"After a period of stable nr falling claims, the jump in insur-ance payouts in the second quarter uf this year comes as a hig disappointment," according to Mark Boleat, director-general of the ABI. "While these figures clearly show the value uf insurance, they do add pressure on the industry. do add pressure on the industry for rate increases after a long period of largely stable or falling preminm levels."

At present, according to Cornis around £170 tn £180. This ranges from around £120 in the countryside to £250 or more in large towns and cities.

Over the coming year, the feeling in the insurance industry is that premiums for both buildings and contents could cost householders 10 per cent to 20 per cent more than they do today.

The size of any increase will be very dependent oo the claims experienced due to weather conditions are used for work purposes. But this coming winter. Another severe winter with mounting claims for damage caused by storms and frozen pipes will lead to premium increases at the top end of the expensive garden equipment.

Some country dwellers could

crime rates in the town and the countryside has been diminishing as criminals have taken to the motorways to break into country

With their ever more sophisti-cated means of determining premiums, usually using post codes, many policyholders living in the country could see their properties being assessed in higher rating hands than previously.

Building premiums have benefited from reduced subsidence payouts compared with a couple uf years ago. But the fall in claims has coincided with the decline in house sales. Now that the housing market windows, with further discounts is improving, the insurance industry is expecting an increase in alarms. Members of neighbour-claims. Evidence of subsidence hood watches often also get often only comes to light when a reduced premiums. huilding survey is being conducted for a sale of a bouse.

Another trend spotted by the from offices. Not all house contents computers, especially when they where they are covered, householders could find themselves paying a separate premium just as many oow do for hicycles and

has led to many householders payclaims for damage caused by hur- see a greater proportional rise ing far too much for their insurance. glaries showed a small increase for than those living to the cities, Instead of remaining with one

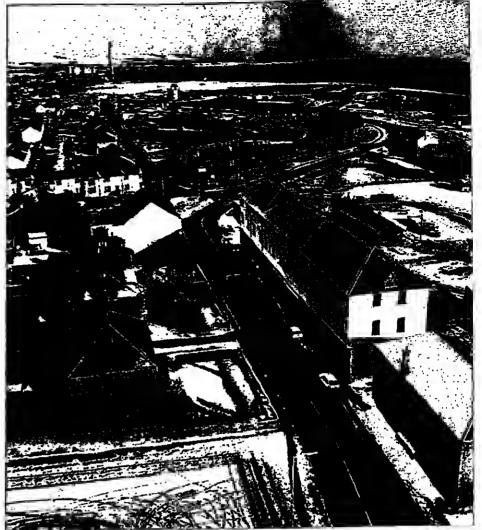
is purchased as part of a murigage package. It is often cheaper to take out insurance independently and not just accept the policy offered by the mortgage lender.

A number of companies will now offer discounts to policyholders who take out building and content insurance with them at the same time. A few will give a small no-claims bonus if there has not been a claim for one or two years.

Other discounts are also available. Most insurers will usually give between 5 and 10 per cent discounts to hauseholders who have installed suitable locks oo doors and available to those who fit burglar

"Policyholders can do themselves some good by helping to keep down the cost of claims" says ABI is that of rising computer Mark Boleat. "There are clear thefts from the home as well as incentives to do this in the form of generous discounts hut it is in insurance policies cover home everyone's interests to take crime and loss prevention seriously. A little extra care can often make all the difference."

Sometimes it is possible to get a cheaper domestic insurance policy in the afternoon from one of the direct marketing insurers. Just as short of the requisite number, then the salesperson could quote a lower



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Even up the odds of winning a million pounds

It's still one in 6.8 billion, but a punt on Premium Bonds is a better bet than the lottery, argues lan Hunter

Tailed to win the lottery for yet has an equal and separate chance which is updated every quarter.

Anyone who has lost bonds or had to try another form of gambling where, eveo if you do not win, losing is not as painful. This 40-year-old. game of chance offers every partic-

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attractioo. Premium Bonds were first introduced in 1956 by the then chancellor Harold MacMillan. Since 1957 National Savings has paid out £3.2bn in prize money and a grand total of 53.42 million prizes.

The minimum Premium Bood stake is now £100 (compare that with how much you have spent on lottery tickets in the last two years). The maximum holding permitted is £20,000. Bonds can he hought at . National Savings. any post office or direct from

National Savings.

Bonds are usually issued within three weeks of the date of purchase. Once the bonds have been held for a full calendar month they qualify for the prize draws. Each £1 unit

The winning numbers are selected each month by the Electronic Random Number Indicator Equipment, known to a generation of punters as Ernie. The overall ipant a monthly opportunity to win of punters as Ernie. The overall number of prizes awarded is fixed at 350,000. The prizes vary between hut it has still retained its powers of £50 and £1m. The monthly prize fund is divided into three hands. The first 10 per cent of the prize money is channelled into awards hetween £1m and £5000. The second band, which amounts to 15 per cent of the prize money, provides prizes of either £1000 or £500. The remainder of prizes consists of sums of either £100 or £50. All prizes are paid to winners free of tax and winners are automatically informed of their good fortune by

The good oews for those who have moved house without leaving a forwarding address is that there is no time limit for collecting a prize. A complete list of the winning numbers is available at all main post offices

them stolen can write to Premium Bonds, National Savings, Lytham St Annes, Lancs, FYO 1YN. It would be helpful if you can supply the account number or the bond numbers, but failing that you should sup-ply details of where you were living at the time you bought the bonds and your present address and it

may still be possible to track them down and issue duplicates. Bonds can be cashed in at any time. An application simply has to he made to National Savings, with a signature for verification. The Bond is usually redeemed within 10 days.

According to National Savings the odds against a single bond win-ning £1m are one in 6.8 hillion, hut one holder with just a £20 bood has already won a million.

A quick glance at the list of the 30 Premium Bond millionaires since 1994 seems to suggest that a way of increasing your chances of winning is either to move to the South of along with a list of unclaimed prizes County Antrim if you live in North- could be next month.

ern Ireland. National Savings seeks to counter any regional paranoia by explaining: "It's true that more prizes are won in the South. But there's a very good reason for this, simply that more Bonds are held hy people who live there. Ernie does not store names and addresses and cannot know where the holders of the numbers live. The winning random numbers are matched with the names and addresses of the winners only after the prizes draw has taken place."

National Savings also seeks to re-assure Bond hulders that Ernie is completely random. Each month Ernie's output is tested by the Government Actuary. These tests, according to National Savings, check that the numbers are free of bias and that each bond has an equal chance

However, a quick glance at the list of Premium Bond millionaires shows that the vast majority of winners purchased their holdings in the 1990s. Remember, it could be you England, if you live in Britain, or and if it isn't, at oo extra cost, it



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THE INDEPENDENT WEDNESDAY IS CHARACTER

Carat and stick approach to diamond investment

John Andrew offers a guide to the four C's for prospective gem buyers and hints on how to bypass the high mark-up high street jewellers



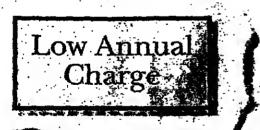
A gem of an investment: This 100-carat diamond sold for over £10m at Sotheby's in 1995

Photograph: Glynn Griffiths

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range from moderately to astroa glamorous woman, and men these days wear them too, especially

in signet rings. The very word dia-A diamond may be a girl's best

friend, it fits all the standard investment criteria, but is it something the shrewd investor could buy and sell at a profit? The answer is, however, not straightforward, because the world diamood market is controlled by the Ceotral Selling Organisation which is managed by De Beers. Meotioo the word investment at De Beers' London headquarters and the response is immediate and emphatic: "Diamonds are not an investment. They are the

ultimate gift and a store of wealth."
The aim of the CSO is to balance supply and demand to prevent wild fluctuations in the market price of the stooes. As such the CSO sells diamonds, but it does not buy them back. Because of De Beers' fioancial strength, the company can hold buffer stocks of diamonds oot currently in demand, releasing them on to the market in an orderly flow when demand increases.

Last mooth Russia announced it was closing its Committee for Gem-stooes and Precious Metals, which cootrolled, amongst other things, the sale of diamonds mined in Siberia. It renewed fears that Russia would no looger sell its diamonds through the CSO but independently oo the openmarket. If this happened, the price of diamonds could have plummeted. However, aithough the Russians desperately oeed hard currency, they are hardly likely to shoot themselves in the foot

CSO go to its London offices. There they are sorted into over 5,000 categories of number of shape, quality, colour and size. Even if obtainable, such a vast number of categories is a good reason for not even contem-

plating buying uncut stones. Once sorted, the diamonds are

hey last for ever, they come in in London, at which the rough stones est of retailers. But there are good different shapes and sizes, they are sold to some 160 clients of the CSO. The mixtures are offered at a oomically expensive, you can non-negotiable price. Bargaining is wear them, especially if you are only allowed for individual stones in excess of 10 carats.

Rough diamonds may not be an investment, but, how does one go monds conjures up dazzling images of about getting value for money on cut shimmering facets, great wealth and stones? The question may appear straightforward, but the answer is complex. As De Beers states in its excellent leaflet, Quality and Value, which is available from all good jewellers or direct from the CSO, "There's more to diamoods than meets the eye.

The characteristics that determine the quality of a diamond are known as the 4C's: colour, clarity, cut and carat, which is the stone's weight. The most sought-after colour for a diamood is one where there is no colour at all.

Clarity relates to the impurities in a diamond. The more impurities, the lower its price per carat. An internally flawless stone is known as "IF". whereas those with only very slight inclusions, which can only be seen with difficulty from the back of the stone using a 10x magnifying glass, are known as VVS1 and VVS2. Minor inclusions, which are still difficult to see with the untrained eye, are referred to as VS1 and VS2; nooceable inclusions which are easy or very easy to see with a 10x lens are S11 and S12, whereas those with obvious inclusions are 11, 12 and 13.

The precision and delicacy of the cut dictates the maximum amount of light that will be reflected through the diamond. When the stone is cut to good proportions, light is reflected from one facet to another and dispersed through the top of the stone. If a diamond is cut too deep or too shallow, light escapes through the bottom of the stone.

Finally there is size - 95 per cent of The rough diamonds from the hig all cut diamonds weigh less than a producing nations that belong to the carat. However, it is the inter-relationship of the 4C's that determines a diamond's value, A flawless, colourless one carat stone of good cut will be worth more than one which is twice the size but is near colourless with very minor inclusions.

If you want to buy a single diamond, the jeweller is still the best bet. It is a blended into a "selling mixture" in preparation for the 10 annual "sights" well-known fact that the mark-up of high street jewellers is one of the highwell-known fact that the mark-up of

reasons for this, the main one being the high value of stocks they have to hold to give their customers a choice. So, would it not be better to buy a cut stone and have a ring made? While perfectly possible, Andy Booe at De Beers admits that it is difficult for the public to buy an unmounted stone io Hatton Garden.

Although the supply and demand of rough diamonds is controlled, the price to the consumer is oot. As one jewellery dealer, who wishes to remain anonymous, told me, "The differential between the huying and selling price of stones io Hattoo Gardeo, London's diamond ceotre, is enormous - 100 per cent"

However, there is another way forward. In April, Sotheby's held its first auction of unmounted brilliantcut diamonds in Loodon, with most of the gems selling io the £700-£2,000 range. Each piece was sold with a lab-oratory certificate giving the classification of the stone. The huyers obvi-ously included dealers, but also private huyers wishing to have pairs

of earriogs or a solitaire ring made.

A working jeweller will charge around £300-£350 plus VAT to have set a ooe carat diamond mounted in a handmade ring. A high street jew-eller could well add a 100 per cent mark-up for arranging to have the work undertaken. Given that one carat oear colourless stones were selling at around £2,000 at Sotheby's in April, even a DIY approach does not come cheap.

However, at the end of the day, one will have a jewel that will mean far more to both the giver and the wearer than a similar piece just selected from a jeweller's stock. Nevertheless, for those with the time to search for what they want, the purchase of any item of jewellery on the secondary market - either from a jeweller or at auction - still represents the best value for money. Typically a solitaire ring which will retail oew in a high street jewellers at £4,000 will sell for half that sum on the secondary market.

FACT FILE For copies of De Beers' leatlets on diamonds lelephone 0171-404 4444 Details of Sotheby's new sale of unmounted cut diamonds telephone 0171-493-8080 ·

CITY TRIAL VERDICT

The winners of the Stockbrokers Awards 1996 are announced in this week's issue of Investors Chronicle. We reveal the names of the UK's best stockbrokers as judged by their customers.

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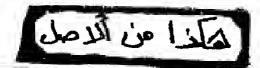
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لكذا من ألاصل



Easdaq is the open sesame to Europe

William Gleeson on the importance of a new market you want to get a piece of the action in Spain or Malaysia the usual thing is to invest in a unit trust growth fund specialising in a par-ticular geographical region.

The the pan-European stock market, Easdaq – European Asso-ciation of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation - which starts trad-ing nn 30 September may change all that. When the market is up and run-ning both institutinnal and private investors will be able to huy and sell shares in European and American growth companies with the same ease as domestic shares.

The first two companies, Artis, as its name implies, mudelled un the Nasdaq market in the US. It is not a high-risk market such as AIM run by the London Stock Exchange. For admission to Easdaq, companies will have to fulfil entry require-Stock Exchange rather than the scantier requirements of AIM.

The apportunity for the private ensuring that the flotation prospecinvestor to invest direct in tus and angoing trading statements smaller fireign enmpanies is and results announcements meet full something relatively unheard of. If hlown US GAAP nr International Accounting Standards.

The sort of company they want in see on the market is likely to have a trading record and a management with a proven track record. It may well be active in European markets and may want to benefit from an increased profile overseas. By list-ing nn Easdaq, companies will get exposure for their press releases nn results, trading conditions, contracts and prospects in newspapers across Europe.

Almost by definitinn, a multi-natinnal market will be higger than any one natinnal market. There will he more investors than in any one work Systems, a Belgian software company, and Innngenetics, a Belgian bio-tech company, have just asked for a listing. The new market

This means mure husers and selfers, which together with the market maker system Easdaq has opted for, should result in higher levels of liquidity nr price-earnings ratins than might he anticipated should the same company float nn its ments closer to those required by the London full list or the New York capital growth should be more

dynamic.
The history of the Nasdaq mar-Companies must have the backing of ket in the US is a good nmen for its

launch in 1974 the main Nasdaq index, the Nasdaq 100, has nutper-formed the indices of all other main stock markets in the US and Europe. The historical and proiccted p/e ratios of Nasdaq companies tend to be higher than those nf the traditional blue-chip style com-

panies that list on the NYSE. The Easdaq attempt to recreate the same market conditions in Europe affers the investor an opportunity to scrutinise European companies and a chance in be the first in spot the next Microsoft nr Cisco systems. Yet if Easdaq is such a good idea, why has it nut been thought of before? At least one part of the answer is that the regulatory framework for the new market has only relatively recently fallen intn place with natinnal governments enacting the principles in the EU's Investment Services Directive and the Prospectuses

Under the ISD, recognition as a stock market in one EU country means that recognitinn is automatically granted in other EU countries. The same goes for the financial intermediaries. A stockbroker authorised by one financial regulator in the EU has the authmatic right to trade throughout Europe.

It is the same for issuing a sponsors, whn will be liable for new European sihling. Since its prospectus to raise money nn a pub-

lie stock market. Approval nf a prospectus in nne country means the same document can be used

across Europe. European stock markets have been nationally focused and concentrated nn events within their own borders. Nowadays though, much business is conducted in an multicultural and indeed ginbal context. Companies are seeking to integrate the way they nperate across the world. Indeed the buzzword among management consultants is "globalisation". Once the trading mind-set is in place it is not a big leap to deciding to try tn raise capital inter-nationally.

Whether there is an appetite for the new market in Europe is something that only time will tell. Tradi-tionally, Europe, with the exceptions of Sweden and the UK, has not had a strong equity culture. Companies have been family owned and the state has been sufficiently generous with pensinns tn fnrestall the need for a large and active stock market for pensinn funds in invest in.

However in a recent report, Flotations in Continental Europe, HSBC James Capel speculates that this was about in change The pensions issue is at the top of the political agenda in many European countries. Europe, says the report, is set to be the next emerging market.

As if tn prove the point, fund manager M&G has announced a new European smaller companies fund. It believes the time is right in launch what it is hnping will prove to be one of their mainstream funds, attracting £100m-plus frum investors. Easdaq, believes M&G. will create the interest and liquidity in smaller companies shares nn the Continent that has been missing to date. The offer far the fund opened on 10 September and the fund starts trading on 30 September, the day Easdaq expects to npen its doors for husiness.

Easdag is clearly a radical idea. It may even be controversial. One can foresee the Eurosceptics getting

All states need their institutions including economic ones like central banks and stock markets. Commentators of the future may look back to this autumn and conclude that Easdaq was as vital a step in the creation of the European superstate as the common currency.

But might it all, eventually, go further? Could there nne day be a
Gtobex - a wnrld-wide stock
exchange, npen 24 hours a day with dealers trading on the same screens whether located in Sydney nr San Francisco? At the mnment all that is preventing a Glnbex is the regulatnry framework.



LOOSE CHANGE

ndex-tracker funds which go up and down in line with the FT-SE 100 share nr some other index have become extremely popular over the last 18 mnnths, thanks tn low initial charges and management fees, and the gradual rise in the indices in most main markets. But what happens when indices start to fall, as they probably will soon in the US and possibly the UK

Guaranteed stock market bonds offer capital protection but usually lock investors in for five or six years. Premier Equity protector from Premier Fund Management and John Govett (Jersey) offers investors between 40 per cent and 90 per cent of any gains in the index over three months but limits the maximum loss to 2 per cent by investing in a combination of options and interest-

earning deposits. The next three monthly nffer closes nn 30 September, minimum investment is £5,000, there is an initial charge of 5 per cent of which up tn 4 per cent goes in commission to intermediaries, and the annual charge is 1.5 per cent. Freephone 0800 212577 for details.

Barclayloan is offering Barclay custnmers personal loans combined with Barclayloan Lifestyles, the first ever customer card which entitles bulders tn a range of shapping discounts an travel, motoring, home and leisure goods and services.

The loan rates themselves range from 14.9 per cent APR nn amounts from £7,500 to £10,000, rising to 17.9 per cent nn amnunts down to £3,000 and 20.9 per cent nn amnunts down to the minimum loan of £500. Call 0500 200 250 for details.

Three-quarters of employees in company pension schemes think they will have enough far a comfortable retirement but only 1 per cent now qualify for the maximum company pensinn of two-thirds of final salary. usually by working 40 years for the same empinyer.

To help them decide how best to top up their pensions through

4.0

additional voluntary contributions, or whether tn switch to a personal pension NatWest is nffering a fact-sheet, free by calling 0800 255200.

At least half the wnmen in the UK are not making adequate provising for their retirement according tn Mark Howe, head of pensions marketing at TSB. The bank has a free booklet (phone 0645 758700) to help women get to grips with state pensions, company pensions, and personal pensions, how to budget for retirement and how to make up for career breaks.

Nearly 90 per cent of people don't know the difference between private medical insurance (PMI), which pays the cost of private treatment and income protection (IP) which pays household and nther bills if you are too ill to work, according to research done for Norwich Union Healthcare.

To help sort nnt the differences and explain what PMI and IP policies do, may, and do not cover Nnrwich Uninn is offering readers a free 46-page booklet. Definitions like moratorium policies which require nn medicals but will not cover existing medical conditions you had within five years of starting the policy if they recur within two years, are particularly useful. Call 0800 424242.

Irish Life International has linked up with PPP Healthcare to issue a Lifetime Care Investment Plan which funds the care policy through investment in gilts, certificates nf

Minimum single premium investment is £20,000, the lnng-term care benefits are between £400 and £3,000 a month and the initial capital can be run down to as little as £3,000.

Liverpool Victoria, the largest friendly society, is offering a new Health and Sickness Plan which pays out cash to help cover inpatient and hospital casualty charges, optical and dental cover. maternity benefits and income replacement. Premiums do not rise with age, policies cover children under 18 free, there are three levels nf cover. The cheapest costs 92p a day.



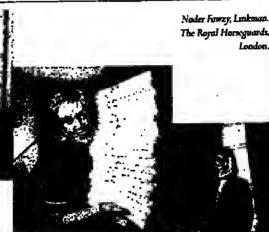
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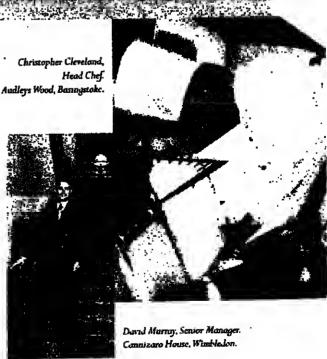




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Tony Lyons reports on the new wave of guaranteed growth and income bonds offered by building societies, banks and insurance companies

he rest of the savings industry is taking advantage of the sudden bout of nerves created by events at Morgan Grenfell by marketing products which imply greater protection of capital. Nowhere is this more evident than in Nowhere is this more evident than in the way insurance companies, banks and building societies are all husily promnting their fixed-term guaranteed growth bonds and income bonds.

Guaranteed growth bonds are currently offering between 4 per cent and 6.5 per cent net plus a full return of capital at the end of the period usually the to five years. But

the period, usually two to five years. But many investors find these returns unattractive and are looking at higher-income nr growth bonds, seeing them as a means of gen-erating a higher income rather than accumulating capital.

Higher income bonds do not offer a full guarantee of capital but they do offer above-average rates of return, and a return of capital providing a chosen stock market index does not fall during the investment period. If it does, then the income withdrawn will eat into the capital investment.

Offers open and close rapidly. Abbey Life, for example, closed its High Income Bond offer nn 1 July, having attracted more than £250m, then a week later launched a second issue. The new bond offers an income of 9 per cent net a year, or 0.7 per cent a month, for five years to hasic-rate taxpayers and a return of capital or accumulated growth of 55 per cent providing the FT-SE

100 stock market index in London and the S&P 500 index in New York do not fall by more than 5 per cent over the period. If the two indices rise by more than 40 per cent over the five years, then the bondholders will receive a top-up bonus of 15 per cent nn

maturity. One of the highest returns comes from Financial Assurance, which offers 10.6 per cent net income a year or 167 per cent growth over five years, providing the FT-SE 100 and the S&P 500 do not fall.

It also offers its Income Safeguard Bond for the more cautious investor. This will give an income of 8 per cent net and a full return of capital even if the two indices fall by as much as 20 per cent over a five-and-a-half year term. Any more, and the investor will only receive back the capital invested less the income paid out.

Another attractive offer is from Friends Provident, which has launched its first highincome bond. This pays out 10.5 per cent net or 65 per cent growth over five years and is linked to the performance of the London and New York indices. Minimum investment is £7,500. For the even more cautious saver, the NPI Guaranteed Investment Bond gives 50 per cent growth over six years with a full return of capital. If the FT-SE index doubles by the end of the term, the return will be

Clerical Medical International, based on the Isle of Man, is offering a bond which will pay out 140 per cent of any rise in the FI-

SE 100 or 155 per cent of any rise in the Nikkei 225 at the end of a six-year investment period. The investor can choose which index to link to. There is a guarantee of a full return of capital should the chosen index fall.

Sun Alliance, through its direct marketing arm, is offering a six-year Carnation Bond. This will pay nnt a 42 per cent return at the end of six years plus a full return of the original investment. In addition, providing the Nikkei index rises more than 42 per cent, the investor will receive half of the additional appreciation.

Unlike the life insurance companies, banks and building societies cannot pay out interest net of tax to basic-rate taxpayers. Interest is paid out gross and the accounts or bonds usually carry heavy penalties for early encashment. One of the more interesting variants on offer comes from the Bristol & West. Its Save and Investment bond pays out 8 per cent gross a year by putting half the amount invested into a deposit account and the other half into a FT-SE tracker fund for

It is important to remember that growth or capital bonds invest a high proportion of their money in derivatives so that they can benefit from stock market performance. They do not guarantee a full return of capital on maturity, or else offer a relatively low guaranteed growth with a top-up bonus dependent on the selected stock market

index rising over the investment perind. This means that when the higher income

option is chosen, should the selected stock market index show a negative performance, the investor will find that the income withdrawals will have eaten into the capital.

All investment is about risk-taking and higher income or growth bonds are no dif-

With most of the world's major stock market indices at or near their all-time highs, investing in these bonds is taking a gamble that over the investment period the selected index will not show a decline.

Before investing it is important to see which index is being used to generate the income. After all, if it is not the FT-SE 100, then there is also the risk of performance being affected by changes in currency rates. Currency dealers are already claiming that, with a general election looming in the UK, there could be a period of instability in the foreign exchange markets if a Labour government is elected.

"Investors should he aware of the risk factors," says Graham Hooper of Chase de Vere Investments, the financial advisers, "and not put all their eggs in one hasket. Having said that, these stock market-linked bonds do have a role to play as long as the risks are explained. If you cannot risk any of your capital, do not invest in them."

But so long as the investor is aware of the risk, reads the small print in any advertisement or promotional material, and asks a financial adviser what the risks are, then these bonds could form a part of an investment portfolio.

FIRST PUBLIC OFFER

of units at 50p each closes 1.30 p.m. Monday 30th September 1996

The new M&G European Smaller Companies Fund will invest in smaller companies in Europe, with the sole objective of long-term capital growth.

The market for European companies is undergoing rapid change. M&G have deliberately timed the launch of the new European Smaller Companies Fund to capitalise on the high potential rewards from the sector as it enters this exciting

We believe the new Fund has the key ingredients for success, combining opportunity in a growth sector with M&G's proven track record of stock selection in both European and smaller company markets.

Fund objective
The fund will invest in smaller companies in Europe with the sole objective of capital growth. The manager will companies which constitute the bottom third in terms of total market capitalisation. There may be some investment in medium and larger capitalised companies which will enhance the liquidity of the Fund. Exchange rate fluctuations can affect both Income and capital values. The market in securities issued by smaller companies is narrow and investors should expect wider

Applying for units at the launch The initial offer period will run from 10th September 1996 until 30th September 1996. Applications cannot be accepted before 10th Septemb

Applications for units at 50p each must be accompanied by a cheque made payable to M&G Securities Limited and must reach M&G not later than 1.30 p.m. on 30th September 1996 when the Initial offer closes. The minimum Initial investment is £1,000. We do not issue certificates of titla for units but investors will be issued with an acknowledgement on

completion of each transaction. This confirms full registration details and the number of units held. investors should note that units cannot be redeemed until after the initial offer period. This does

not affect cancellation rights where applicable Buying and selling units after the launch After the offer period has closed our Customer Services Department in Chelmsford will be open for dealing between 8.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. on each business day If you send dealing instructions to any other M&G office. we do not normally process them until they reach Chelmsford, which may lead to a delay in carrying out your instructions. We usually only calculate prices once

To: M&G Securities Limited, M&G House, Victoria Road Chelmsford CM3 118.

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on each business day but we may carry out additional valuations of the funds where we consider it desirable to do so. When buying units, you pay the buying price (i.e. offer price), and when you sell units back to us, you neceive the selling price (i.e. the bid price), in each case we send you a contract note showing the price.

We only deal at 'forward' prices, that is the price next calculated after we receive your order.

If you buy units by post you must send your payment for the purchase of units with your for the purchase no later than five business days after the date of the contract note.

We pay the proceeds of a sale of units not later than four business days after either (i) we receive your instructions or (2) we receive a correctly completed form of renunciation, where required. We do not normally require a form of renunciation if all the following points

- the holding is registered in a sole name; · the sale proceeds are to be made payable to the registered holder at his registered address;
- that address has not changed within the previous 30
- day does not exceed £6,000. We reserve the right to require a form of renunciation in any case. We issue a form of renunciation, when we
- require one, with your contract note. Unit prices after 30th September 1996
 The prices will be calculated each business day as at 1.30 p.m. and the prices are usually available by 4.00 p.m. The Managers have a discretion to carry out

additional valuations when they consider it desirable to

do so. Prices and yields will appear daily in the Financial

Second Holder

Full Forenames

Telephone No.

Surname

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APPLICATION FORM

EUROPEAN SMALLER COMPANIES **FUND**

Times. The spread represents the difference (based on the offer price) between the price at which you may buy units and the price at which you may sell units. The price of your units must rise by at least this amount before your cover your dealing costs. The spread includes 0.5% transfer stamp duty when applicable. The value of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. You may get back less than

Based on Manager's projected portfolio as at 5th August 1996 the estimated gross distribution yield was 0.69% per annum. It is anticipated that at least a substantial proportion of the distributions made on this new fund will be paid as Foreign incoma

Since this will be a new unit trust it is not possible to quote either the most recent bid-offer spread, or the maximum permitted spread, but in normal circumstances the spread between the bid and offered prices is likely to be between 5.25% and 5.5% of the offer price though we retain the right to widen the spread or change the pricing basis within the permitted range. We like to base the offer price on the creation range. We like to base the offer price on the creation price which usually gives sellers a bid price higher than the cancellation price. However, we mey widen the spread, or change the pricing basis of units, within the range permitted by the relevant statutory regulations. For large deats (which the Financial Services (Regulated Schemes) Regulations regard as deats in excess of £15,000) we may widen the spread within the negulated limits.

income and Accumulation units will be issued. Accumulation units provide a facility for the automatic reinvestment of income without having to pay any initial Included in the price of Accumulation units. The number of Accumulation units does not change. The effect of the reinvestment shows in the relative increase in the price of Accumulation units over Income units.

You may convert Accumulation units into Income units and vice versa at any time without liability to capital gains tax. We make no charge for this service but we allot only whole numbers of units and retain any fraction of a unit arising from the conversion in the fund for the benefit of all unitholders.

income distributions, whether pald or reinvested, will be treated in an identical manner for tax purposes. We issue only whole numbers of units and will hold any balance money in a client money account and carry it forward to the next income payment date. The Fund will distribute on a half yearly basis, the first ex-diploend date being 19th May 1997 and the first payment date being 10th July 1997. The next ex-dividend and payment dates will be 24th November 1997 and 12th January 1998 respectively.

The Fund will pay corporation tax at 20%.
It is expected that the Fund will pay all or at least a substantial proportion of the distributions as foreign income dividends (FIDs). Distributing this income as a FID, as opposed to an ordinary distribution, saves tax, resulting in a higher net distribution for you.

Authorised unit trusts are exempt from capital gains tax on dealings within the Fund,

Dividend distributions carry a tex credit, currently 20%. if you are liable to the basic rate or lower rate band, you will have no further tax to pay. Higher rate faxpayers will have a further liability to tax, if you are not liable to pay tax, you can use the tax voucher to support a tax

repayment claim.
FID distributions will not carry a tax credit, although they will be treated as having been taxed at 20%. The only difference for you from a normal dividend distribution is that you will not be able to claim a tax repayment if you are not liable to tax.

Capital gains tax.

When you sell units you may, depending upon your personal circumstances, be liable to pay capital gains tax on the increase in value of the units, For 1996/97 an individual's first £6,300 of gains on disposals in any tax. year is to be exempt from tax. Gains in excess of £6,300 will be added to your other income and taxed accordingly. There is additional relief as the cost of buying the units is indexed to allow for initiation.

Managers' reports
Every six months, on the applicable payment dates, you the progress of your fund, the 'Managers' Report'. At the same time you will receive an income distribution, if you hold income units, and a tax voucher. Your tax voucher will confirm on a six-monthly basis your holding as at the relevant ex-distribution date. If no distribution is payable, we send a confirmation of your holding with the Managers' Report.

Charges

An Initial charge of 5% is included in the offered price which is the maximum authorised by the trust deed. The Managers' annual charge of 1.25% based on the fund's mid-market value is deducted from gross income fortnightly on a pro-rata basis. Trustees fees (which are subject to VAT) are based on a scale reflecting the size of the Fund, namely; on the first £50 million, 0.0150% and £50 million to £150 million, 0.0125%. Registration fees are 0.08% plus VAT. The annual custodian charge as at 10th September 1996 would have represented less than 0.1%.

The Trustee is Lloyds Bank PLC. The Trust Deed may be inspected at the Head Office of the Trustee or at M&G's office at 3 Minster Court, Great Tower Street, London EC3R 7XH. The auditors are Coopers & Lybrand.

The Fund is a wider-range investment and is authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986. In certain circumstances you are entitled to cancel your contract to purchase units and have the sum you invested returned to you.

A full statement of the investment and borrowing

powers of M&G unit trusts appear in Scheme Particulars, enclosed in the M&G Handbook, available ran usuals, encused in the Mode randotox, available free of charge from M&G.
Cancellation rights arise under the Financial Services (Cancellation) Rules 1989 and only apply if you invest through an independent financial adviser on his/her

personal recommendation and your customer agreement with them does not exclude canonication high

When you invest a lump sum you will not get a full refund of the money you have paid if the offer price of the investment falls before we know that you have served the cancellation notice. This is because we deduct an amount equal to such fall in the offer price from the refund you would otherwise receive.

The value of the tax benefits of PEPs will depend on your own circumstances.

The tax regime of PEPs could change in the future. You should always remember that the value of units and this income from them may go down as well as up and that you may not get back the amount you invested. Holdings in overseas investments are subject to exchange rate fluctuations which can affect both scome and capital value.

M&G does not offer investment advice or make any recommendations about investments. We only promote the packaged products and services of The M&G

M&G unit trusts are managed by M&G Securities Limited (regulated by M&G and The Personal Investment Authority) and The M&G PEP is managed by M&G Financial Services Limited (regulated by The Personal Investment Authority). Arry queries?

M&G unit trust range please get in touch with your usual Independent financial adviser (if you have one) or M&G's Customer Services Department, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Telephone (01245)

THE NEW M&G EUROPEAN SMALLER COMPANIES FUND

Before you cash in that policy...

Get cash against it. By Clifford German

ext week Scottish Widows Bank, the fledging banking business set up 18-months ago by its Edinhurghbased insurance parent, will start lending money against the security of insurance policies issued by most other life offices, and not just its own.

Provided the policy has been running long enough to build up some value, policyholders can either borrow and pay interest only on the loan, or repay it over a fixed period of time, like a repayment mortgage, or use the loan like a secured overdraft and borrow and repay within agreed limits by telephone. The interest rate is 9.1 per cent APR, which compares favourably with overdrafts

and personal loans. The idea of borrowing against an insurance policy is not new but has traditionally been expensive and limited to the insurer's own policies. The new facility offers policy-holders an

alternative to tamely surrendering the policy to the company which issued it, for an amount traditionally well below its actual value, or selling it at auction or hawking it. round the various brokers and dealers who buy and sell second-hand endowment policies, either on commission or on their own account.

The second-hand or "traded" endowment market usually offers a better deal than surrender but it still leaves a profit for the broker and a potential return of 10-13 per cent a year for anyone willing to huy the policy. take over the payments and wait for it to mature.

There is also the possibility of a windfall if . the insurance company is taken over or converts to a

quoted company. Policyholders who need the money will now have the option of keeping the policy until it matures. Scottish Widows Bank plans to go into mortgage lending next year.

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Information/advice will only be given on Equitable group products

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The Equitable Life free post wallow street, and south BULKING LANSHIRE HP21 78R To The Equivable Life. FREEPOST Walton Street. AYLESBURY. Bucks HP21 7B8 I would welcome details on The Equivable's persons plans. I am self employed [] INPTA I am an employee not in a company pension scheme [] NAME (Mr Mrs Miss) ADDRESS .

The Equitable Life You profit from our principles

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-		Best bo	rrov	Vİ	ig ra	ates		
	Telephone	% Rate and	Max	Fee	ince	ntive	Redemption	
MERCE AGES	المستحدث الماء مستوار	period	adv %				penalty	
Fixed rates	_ تريية لان الماساطة		100					
Scarborough BS	0800 590547		٠.					
Norwich&P'barous	b 01733 391407	0.20 for 1 year	85	0.7			1st 5 yrs:7.0	4% of sum repair
cyclandia R2	0800 526350	6.45 for 3 years 7.74 for 5 years	85	579	_		1st 5 yrs: 6 a	
Variable rates		1.14 for 5 years	95	£29	5 Unan	nipoyment ins	— ist 6 yrs: 18	days Interest
Northern Rock BS	0800 591500	0.99 to 1/10/97	90		Refu	nd vain fee	let 6 ure. 59	of sum repaid
Principality BS Abbey National	01222 344188	3.60% to 1/11/98	90	_		A VAUIT 100	To 30/9/01: d	iscount reclaime
First time buyer	0800 555100	5.74 to 31/8/01	95	_	Refu	nd valu fee		nd determined
Altiance & Leic BS	Ais local parame							
Skipton BS	01756 700511	2.10 to 1/10/97	95	0.5	_		To 1/10/01: 6	
Northern Rock BS	0800 501500	4.75 to 30/9/98 7.49 to 1/10/01	95	529		aployment ins		of o/s balance
First time buyers	variable rates	1.43 to 1/10/01	95	£29	5		1st Syrs: 5%	of sum rapaid
Principality BS	01222 344188	1.00 to 1/11/97	90	٠			T- 21/10/01	
Northern Rock BS	0800 591500	4.24% to 1/10/99	95	E29		nd valo fae		discount rectinal of sum repaid
Halifax BS	0800 101110	5.43 to 30/9/01	90			& frae valu		-4% of advance
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Unsecurad	Telephone	APR %	Max LTV	Foxe	d monthly	payments (£3	,000 over 3 year	2)
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Alliance & Leiceste	0141 248 9966	13.9 E		E11	2.88		£101.33	
Midland Bank	0800 180180	14.8		£11			£102.36	
Secured (second	charse)	14.9		£11:			£102.49	
Clydesdale Bank	0800 240024	7.5	Man		LTY Adva	DCO	Terra	
Royal B of Scotland	0131 523 7023	8.7	Neg 70%		- £15K K-£100K		6 mths to 25	
Barclays Bank	0800 000929	9.3/9.6	80%		n-2100n (-£75K		3 years to reti 5 to 25 years	ENAME
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Moolwich BS	0800 400900	Current	0.76	9.5	2.18		29.5	
Miance & Leicester		Alliance	0.76	9.5	2.20		29.8	
bbey National	0500 200500	Current	0.94	11.9	2.18		29.5	
FRENT CARDS	ALE: W			30				Ser Ser
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o-operative Bank	0800 109000	Advantage Visa	_		0.64N	7.90M	rail .	0 days
lobert Fleming/S&P	0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa			0.8958	11.20	nã.	0 days
fidland Bank old cards	01702 353344	MasterCard/Visa	-		0,945N	11,90N	niiN	56 days
	0345 212212	Visa	£20,000		0.4792	.10.32	£120	46 days
	01702 362890	Visa	£20,000		1.05 N	14.5 N	£35	46 days
doyal B of Scotland	0500 551055	MaterCard/Visa	£20,000	÷.	1;13	14,4	rál	56 days
byal B of Scotland	0000 201000	and the second second second	ALC: YES					
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oyal B of Scotland eople's Bank Conn	Telephone via store	Payment by	APR			* ***	9 18.0 7 26.3	

Teachers' BS 01202 8 Alliance & Leic BS 0645 22 Bristol & West BS 0800 90 Bristol & West BS 0800 90 Nottingham BS 0115 95 Nottingham BS 0115 95 Nottingham BS 0115 95 Vorkshire BS 0800 37 Kileanwort Benson 01202 5 Halifax BS 01422 3 Chelsea BS 0800 71 Errichal & West BS 0800 71 Bristol & West BS 0800 90 Bristol & West BS 0800 90 Stoplan BS 0800 90 Stopla	92444 22000 77 1121 77 1121 877771 8858 11109	Direct Reserve Direct Reserve Direct Reserve Mutual Interest HHCA Asset Reserve Classic Postal Classic Postal Classic Postal Postal Deposit Bond Millennium Bond Foed Rate TESSA Fixed Rate TESSA Fixed Rate TESSA	5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years	Depusit £100 £5,000 £10,000 £50,000 £50,000 £500 £10,000 £25,000 £10,000 £25,000 £10,000 £25,000 £10,000 £25,000 £10,000 £25,000 £10,000 £25,000 £10,000 £25,000 £10,000 £25,000	7.50F 7.45F · 7.00 6.80	Interes interval Year Month Year
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Direct Line 0181 66 Direct Line 0181 68 Aliance & Leic BS 0645 22 Bristol & West BS 0800 90 Printingham BS 0115 95 Nottlingham Rick BS 0800 20 Birmingham Midshires 0500 20 Birmingham Midshires 045 72 Principality BS 01222 3 DI O DI SS Sun Banking Corp 01438 7 Nottlingham Midshires 0645 72 Cheltenham & Gloucester 0800 71 Character Insurance 0181 38 Physical Assurance 0181 20 Pinnacle Insurance 0181 20	77 1121 77 1121 77 1121 877171 8858 11109 1109	Instant Savings Instant Savings Instant Savings Bullion Instant Direct Instant Acess Postal Classic	Instant Instant Instant Postal Postal Postal Postal Postal Postal Postal Postal Postal Instant	£10,000 £50,000 £50,000 £5,000 £10,000 £25,000 £10,000 £10,000 £10,000 £25,000 £25,000 £25,000 £25,000 £25,000 £25,000 £25,000 £25,000 £25,000 £25,000 £25,000	5.50 5.75 4.80 5.40 5.85 6.05 6.20 6.40 6.25 5.00 4.00 4.35 4.65 7.25F 7.25F 7.50F 7.45F 7.50F 7.40 6.80	Year Year Year Year Year Year Year Year
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Affiance & Leic BS 0645 22 Bristol & West BS 0800 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 9	28858 11109 11109 11109 66 4422 66 4422 8836 303533 75515 21121 5000 2588 13010 44505 64422 44505 44505 44505 44188	Instant Direct Instant Acess Postal Instant Acess Postal Instant Acess Postal Instant Acess Postal Direct Reserve Direct Reserve Direct Reserve Mutual Interest HICA Asset Reserve Classic Postal Classic Postal Classic Postal Postal Deposit Bond Millennium Bond Found Rate Bond Found Rate TESSA Found Rate TESSA	Postal Po	£5,000 £10,000 £25,000 £25,000 £10,000 £10,000 £10,000 £25,000 £25,000 £25,000 £1,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000	5.40 5.85 6.05 6.10 6.20 6.40 6.25 5.00 4.00 4.35 4.65 7.55F 7.55F 7.50F 7.45F 7.50F 7.45F 7.00 6.80	Year Year Year Year Year Year Year Year
Bristol & West BS 0800 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 9	11109 11109 11109 11109 16 4422 16 4422 18836 17515 17	Instant Acess Postal Instant Acess Postal Instant Acess Postal Direct Reserve Direct Reserve Mutual Interest HICA Asset Reserve Classic Postal Classic Postal Classic Postal Classic Postal Milennium Bond Foed Rate TESSA Foed Rate TESSA Foed Rate TESSA	Postal Postal Postal Postal Postal Postal 20 day P 20 day P 1 Yr Bond Instant Instant Instant Instant Instant Instant Syears 5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years	£10,000 £25,000 £25,000 £10,000 £10,000 £10,000 £25,000 £25,000 £25,000 £1,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000	5.85 6.05 6.20 6.40 6.25 5.00 4.00 4.35 4.65 7.56F 7.56F 7.50F 7.45F 7.00 6.80	Year Year Year Year Year Year Month Charter Year Maturity Year Year Year Year Year
Bristol & West BS 0800 90 Northingham BS 0115 95 Northingham BS 0115 95 Northingham BS 0115 95 Northingham BS 0115 95 Verkshire BS 0800 37 Neisewort Benson 01202 5 Halfast BS 0800 71 Chelsea BS 0800 71 Chelsea BS 0800 71 Bristol & West BS 0800 20 Chelsea BS 0800 99 Slopion BS 0800 90 Slopion BS 0	11109 6 4422 6 4422 6 4422 8836 7515 7515 7515 3010 2121 44505 44505 44188	Instant Acess Postal Direct Reserve Direct Reserve Direct Reserve Direct Reserve Mutual Interest HICA Asset Reserve Classic Postal Classic Postal Classic Postal Classic Postal Classic Postal Classic Postal Ford Rate Bond Ford Rate TESSA Ford Rate TESSA Ford Rate TESSA	Pristal 20 day P 20 day P 20 day P 1 Yr Borad Instant Instan	£25,000 £2,500 £10,000 £25,000 £1,000 £10,000 £25,000 £25,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000 £3,000	6.05 6.10 6.20 6.40 6.25 5.00 4.00 4.35 4.65 7.25F 7.25F 7.50F 7.45F 7.400 6.80	Year Year Year Year Year Year Month Charter Year Maturity Year Year Year Year
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Heimwort Benson 01202 5 Halifex BS 01422 3 Chelsea BS 0800 71 Chelsea BS 0800 71 Bristol & West BS 0800 20 Bristol & West BS 0500 50 Bradford & Bingley BS 0800 59 Stepton BS 0800 60 First Stank 0800 60 First Stank 0800 60 First Stank 0800 20 Brimingham Midshires 0645 72 Frincipality BS 01222 3 First Stank 0800 20 Birmingham Midshires 0645 72 Cheltenham & Gloucester 0800 71 AIG Life 0181 68 First Stank 0801 20 First Stank	02404 35333 7515 7515 7515 2121 5000 2588 3010 44505 644505 44188	Asset Reserve Classic Postal Classic Postal Classic Postal Vear Plus Bond Postal Deposit Bond Millennium Bond Fored Rate Bond Fored Rate TESSA Fixed Rate TESSA Fixed Rate TESSA	lestant Instant Instant 2/2/98 31/12/98 20/11/99 31/10/01 5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years	£10,000 £10,000 £25,000 £25,000 £2,500 £1,000 £5,000 £2,575 £5,000 £1,000 £500	4.00 4.35 4.65 6.25F 6.75F 7.25F 7.56F 7.45F 7.00 6.80	Charter Year Year Maturity Year Year Year Year Year
Chelsea BS 0800 71 Chelsea BS 0800 71 Chelsea BS 0800 71 Bristol & West BS 0800 20 Northern Rock BS 0500 50 Bradford & Bingley BS 0800 59 Stoplan BS 0800 60 Straing Corp 01438 7 NetWest Bank 0800 71 Sun Banking Corp 01438 7 Practicality BS 01222 3 Part Of Classification of Corp 01438 7 NetWest Bank 0800 20 Birmingham Midshires 0455 72 Cheltenham & Gloucester 0800 71 AIG Life 0181 68 Financial Assurance 0181 20 Pinnacia Insurance 0181 20	35333 7515 7515 2121 5000 2588 3010 44505 44505 44505 44505	Asset Reserve Classic Postal Classic Postal Classic Postal Vear Plus Bond Postal Deposit Bond Millennium Bond Fored Rate Bond Fored Rate TESSA Fixed Rate TESSA Fixed Rate TESSA	lestant Instant Instant 2/2/98 31/12/98 20/11/99 31/10/01 5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years	£10,000 £10,000 £25,000 £25,000 £2,500 £1,000 £5,000 £2,575 £5,000 £1,000 £500	4.00 4.35 4.65 6.25F 6.75F 7.25F 7.56F 7.45F 7.00 6.80	Charter Year Year Haturity Year Year Year Year Year Year
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Bristol & West BS 0800 20 So Readford & Bingley BS 0800 59 Stoplan BS 0800 60 So Stoplan BS 0800 60 So Stoplan BS 0800 60 So So Stoplan BS 0800 60 So Stoplan BS 0800 60 So Stoplan BS 0800 60 So Stoplan BS 0800 20 So	2121 2588 3010 44505 6400 67721 44188	Year Plus Bond Postal Deposit Bond Milennium Bond Found Rate Bond Found Rate TESSA Found Rate TESSA Found Rate TESSA	2/2/98 31/12/98 20/11/99 31/10/01 5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years	\$5,000 \$2,500 £1,000 £5,000 \$2,575 £5,000 £1,000 £500	6.25F 6.75F 7.25F 7.56F 7.50F 7.45F 7.00 6.80	Maturity Year Year Year Year Year
Bristol & West BS 0800 20 Northern Rock BS 0500 50 Bradford & Bingley BS 0800 59 Stepten BS 0800 60 Stepten BS 0800 60 FIRST Sank 0800 60 FIRST Sank 0800 60 Brimingham Midshires 0645 72 Proctopality BS 01222 3 FIRST Sank 0800 20 Brimingham Midshires 0645 72 Cheftenham & Gloucester 0800 71 AIG Life 0181 68 Financial Assurance 0181 20 Financia Insurance 0181 20	2121 5000 2588 3010 44505 0400 0721 44188	Year Plus Bond Postal Deposit Bond Millennium Bond Foed Rate Bond Fixed Rate TESSA Fixed Rate TESSA Fixed Rate TESSA	31/12/98 20/11/99 31/10/01 5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years	\$5,000 \$2,500 \$1,000 \$5,000 \$2,575 \$5,000 \$1,000 \$500	6.25F 6.75F 7.25F 7.56F 7.50F 7.45F 7.00 6.80	Year Year Year Year Year Year
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Bradford & Bingley BS 0800 59 Shipton BS 0800 60 Shipton BS 0800 60 Shipton BS 0800 60 Shipton BS 01438 7 NetWest Bank 0800 20 Birmingham Midshires 0645 72 Principality BS 01222 3 Sun Banking Corp 01438 7 NetWest Bank 0800 20 Birmingham Midshires 0645 72 Cheftenham & Gloucester 0800 71	2588 1 3010 1 44505 1 0400 6 0721 44188	Millennium Bond Foed Rate Bond Foed Rate TESSA Foed Rate TESSA Foed Rate TESSA	20/11/99 31/10/01 5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years	£1,000 £5,000 £5,000 £2,575 £5,000 £1,000 £500	7.25F 7.56F 7.50F 7.50F 7.45F 7.00 6.80	Year Year Year Year
Sun Banking Corp 01438 7 NetWest Bank 0800 20 Birmingham Midshires 0425 72 Principality BS 01222 3 Sun Banking Corp 01438 7 NetWest Bank 0800 20 Birmingham Midshires 0645 72 Cheltenham & Gloucester 0800 71 Character Sun 0181 68 Financial Assurance 0181 30 Pinnacia Insurance 0181 20	44505 (0400 (0721 44188 44505 (Fixed Rate TESSA Fixed Rate TESSA Fixed Rate TESSA	5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years 5 years	£8,575 £5,000 £1,000 £500	7.50F 7.45F 7.00 6.80	Year Year Year
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Pinnacle Insurance 0181 207 Pinnacle Insurance 0181 207			2 year	£50,000	5.60FN	Year
Pinnacle Insurance 0181 207			3 years	£3,000	5.80FN	Year
			4 years 5 years	£3,000 £3,000	6.10FN 6.50FN	
Newcastle Bank Gibraltar00 350 7		Nove Access	Instant	£25,000	6.30	Year
Nothern Rock, Guern 014817:		Offshore 30	30 day	£25,000	6.35	Year
Derbyshire (IOM) Ltd 01624 66		O Day Notice	90 Day	£25,000	6.55	Year
Nothern Rock, Guern 01481 71		differnium Bond	1/1/00	000,012	7,50F	Year
Investment Accounts			1 month	620		Year
INVESTINENT ACCOUNTS			I moren	£500	4.75 5.25	Aest.
				£25,000	5.50	Year
Income Bonds			3 months	£2,000	6.00	Month
0-510-1				\$25,000	6.25	Month
Capital Bond Good Cotton Books	· S	Series J	5 years	£100	6.65F	Maturity
First Option Bonds			12 months	£1,000 £20,000	6.00F 6.25F	Year Year
Pensioner's C'teed Income Bond	S	aries 3	5 year	£500	7.00F	Month
NS Certificates (tax-free)	-	3rd issue	5 year	£100	5.35F	Maturity
Children's Bond	4	th Index Enked	5 year	£100	0.70 -1	Maturity

Source: MONEYFACTS 01892 500677.

M net rate A All withdrawats subject at 30 day loss of interest All rates are shown gross and are subject to change without natice.



FEAR OF FINANCE **Clifford German**

he analogy between sex and money is as as it is appropriate, and it is appropriate, and it has been taken apponent again this week by Claire Rayner, the well-known agony aunt, oo behalf of the latest campaign topromote the latest campaign topromote financial awareness among schoolchildren launched schoolchildreo, launched this week by Autif, the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds. (Call 0181-207 1361 for a free

pack) She sees kids in the Nineties "fumbling in the regularly suggests that at or boliday mooey. least half the adult populaplan), which allows investors lo hold shares free of both and capital gains oo the

profit when they sell. Many puoters by oow years of age, and a personal pensioo is best for frequent movers, although employers are often reluctant to make employees do oot know whether their employers do

choosing the best performing pensioo fund manmodesty.

The evidence shows that less than a quarter of investors really knows how company, or how to borrow against the security of the policy, or exactly what the advantages and disadvantages of a "guaraoteed" bond are.

Fewer still know the attractions of an off-shore dark wheo it comes to man-roll-up fund, or an income aging their money", and share in a split-level investthere is little doubt that she meot trust, or where and is right. Market research how to buy travel insurance

When it comes to bortion does not know bow to rowing the level of ignoset about choosing a mort-gage, almost half have never heard of a Tessa (tax-exempt special savings account) or going to rise or fall over a a PEP (personal equity given period of time. But many borrowers still do not know how to set about getincome tax on the dividends ting a discount or a cash-and capital gains on the hack without actually moving house, or whether to take out a personal loan or know a company pensioo get credit from the dealer or scheme which pays out a retailer who sells them their proportion of final salary is next car or washing the best buy for long-term machine, how to choose the employees, the state earn- credit card which best suits their financial circumings related pensioo is usu-ally best for anyone over 45 stances or the relative advantages of borrowing or leasing a oew or secondband car. Yet any, and arguably all,

a cootribution, and many of these things are important if not essential to a full and financially comfortable life. New issues like the But wheo it comes to need for mortgage proteclioo insurance have become essectial knowledge agers and the lowest level of although less than 15 per charges most punters are cent of bomebuyers actually still babes in arms, and the have any protection while respective advantages of they wait to qualify for help additional voluntary contri- from the state. The way butioos, free standing or things are going, private otherwise, are equally medical insurance and longarcane mysteries. Don't take term care insurance to pay my word for it, the surveys for resideotial care when all show a depressing com- we are old will be essential bination of ignorance and/or items of the curriculum within a very few years.

FIDELITY INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Source: MONEYFACTS 01892 500677

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Arts and entertainment listings

pick of the week

POP

Rachel Whiteread First major survey of the Empylor Harrisdabole) The County private the artist who shot to fame in 1993 with the fabilities cheek ones and popular with the fabilities cheek ones and popular with the late.

controversial House. Untitled captures in resin. Ta long way since her mountail duets with the late, the spaces between chains and tables. One of Grain Parsons. After the success of last year's this year's must sees. Tate: Liverpool to the last of the Ball she's back in England for the parties. A testinating bicentenary mights any. The last Case, toncom from Med exhibition exploring the life and work of this. Tiger After propring up stages at various well-travelled. Victorien, parties, Socilist. Tiger After propring up stages at various well-travelled. Victorien, parties, Socilist. Tiger After propring up stages at various well-travelled. Victorien, parties, Socilist. Tiger After propring up stages at various. National Portrait Gallery, Ediebungh to 24 Nov. Peter Blake (above) The old Pop Artist is now music for Indie supremacists. The Lociac, Oxfort tanget.

Associate to the National Collection Lock out for Michelangele's David as Tarzen, with super-ten and famous includes Duran Duran's Should be a laugh. Astoria2, Landon Med.

Should be a laugh. Astoria2. Landon Med.

FILM

ENRORE MOLESTO | 18] Complex murder mystery set in Naplex MGM Swiss Centre 1.20, 3.35, 5.50, 8.20 ANTONIA'S LINE (15) Oscar-wimming Nether landish drama. Curson Mayfair 1.15 (Sal). 3.30, 6.00, 8.30

ebile to stuff from your head.

Gre (above) This lyrical feminist fable and occar Gorns took an Oscar Floreign Film earlier this year. A

The Argent An assassin and his agent track of the form of the fire
attinger correge across Cuba. Directed by the

era A light road movie that follows

i comedy, with a title song you won't be

LES APPRENTIS [15] A French Withnail & I about two down-at-heel men, MGM Swest Centre 3 50, 8.50 Centre 3.50, 8.50
BEAUTIFUL THING: 115) Exploration of gay sexuality. Odeon Measurine 6.40, 8.55
BEAUMARCHAIS (THE SCOURDREL) 1151 [arbitiles) True-life story of the French playwright. Curson Pleas End 1.50 (Set), 4.00, 6, 10, 8.25

6.10.000 SMPLE (18) The Coen brothers' classic thriller, ABC Piccodilly (Fermer), MGM1 1,30, 3,40, 6,01, 8,20 THE CABLE CHY | 121 Comedy starring Jim Carrey, Vissor Transfers | 12/6, 215, 425 Carrey, Virgin Trondero 1278, 215, 425 BEAD BIAN (18) Unconventional Western starring Johnny Depp ABC Piccafilly (For-merly MGM) 8,10

meth MCAO 8.10

MEAD PRESIDENTS [18] Brutal study of
Afro-American Ide in the folk and 70s, 17sgin Investers 12.45, 3.30, 6.30, 9.00, 1.2midmght (Sai); Wiener West End J. panedright
BMAGURME [18] Remarke of the 1955
thriller, Les Diabohques, 17gan Trocaders
7.00, 2.20, Wiener West End 12noon, 2.20,
4.0, 7.10, 9.40

EBBIA (U) New version of Austen's roman-tic classis, Barbaran Cenema 3.00, n.15, 8.40; The Minema 3.15, 4.30, 6.45, 9.00; Odeon Haymarket [2.40, 3.15, 5.55, 8.40; Renov

Haymarker [240, 3.15, 55, 8.40; Renvir 100, 330, 600, 835; Riamer Wen End [1,10, 340, 620, 9,10, 11,55]

ERASER (18) Thriller starring Arnold Schwatzenegger, Vogen Trocadero [240, 320, 600, 900, [2amidinght [541; Riamer Wen End 200, 430, 7,00, 930, [2amidinght ESCAPE FROM I.A. 115) Sequel to Escape From New York, starring Kurt Rossell, Empire Leic Spane 2.15, 4.40, 7,00, 9.31; Tayar Trocadera [2,70, 230, 440, 7,00, 9.25]

FALSER MARKES Schmidt Thanksen [15) FRLLEN ANGELS (DUOLUD TIANISH) [18) (subtiler) Emotional drama set in Hong Kong, Curson Phoenic 2.15, 4.31, 6.25, 8.31; Renor 2.30, 4.35, 6.45, 8.55

FARGO (18) Com brothers thriller. ABC Pur ten St L50, 4.00, 6.25, 8.50; Flam 4.05, 8.40 THE GREAT WHITE HYPE 115; Boxing con-edy. Odom Wor End 2.15, 4.30, 6.45, 9.00 GUANTUNAMERA 115) Subreal portrail of the political crisis affecting modern-day the political crisis affecting modern-day Cuba. Metro 2.15, 4.30, 6.45, 9.00 MEM (15) Al Pacino and Robert De Niro m another cop/psychopath thriller. Warner Mest End 1130)

THE INCREDIBLY TRUE ADVENTURE OF TWO GRAS RELOVE (15) Lesbian romance, ABC Tota Cn R.I 200, 4.25, 7.10, 9.40; Metre 200, 4.15, 6.30, 8.45 #MDEPENDENCE DAY (12) Atmospheric phe-nonexous starring Bill Pullman. Odeon Lele Square 200, 5.15, 8.35

MAKES AND THE GIANT PEACH (U) Fantastical story. Winner West End 12.40, 230, 4.20 THE LAST SUPPER (15) Black comedy star-ring Cameron Diaz ABC Shefteshary Are 250, 620, 8.45; Lirgin Haymarket 1.45, 4.05, 6.25, 8.45

LEAVING LAS VERAS (18) Starring Nicolas Cage as an alcoholic. ABC Purton St 1.15 MARIA CAMO Colombian classic. Partican Cinema Sun 200

Carena San 200

BBSSION: BBPOSSBEE [PG] Brian De
Palma S film version. Empire Leic Spure
200, 430, 7.00, 9.30, 12midnight (Sat):
Plaza 1.00, 3.30, 600, 8.30; Virgan Trocadere
400, 640, 650. MOLHOLLAND FILLS (18) Detective thriller starring Nick Note. Virgin Haymarket 1.10, 3.40, 6.10, 8.40; Warner West End 1.30, 3.50, 6.10, 8.50, 11.30

MEPPET TREASURE ISLAND (Li) Return of

enta Sai III.

MELLY ET MONISHER ARMAID | PG1 Frunch
May to September romance, MGM Waso
Centre 1.30, 6.10 PREMOMENON (PG) Magical avoiety-drama PHENOMERAN (P.O.) Magical cornect-orania starring John Throdina. IBC St. aperbury. Av. 2.10, 5.40. 8.20; B. POSTRIO (15) Sentimental love stars. MGM Source Centre 1.35, 3.55, 6.20, 8.40 RGCHARD B. [15) Ian McKellen stars. ABC Panton 5(3.50, c.15, 8.40

THE ROCK (15) Starring Scan Connery. Odeon Memorine 2:20, 5:35, 8:25; Mirror West End 6:30, 9:20, 12:05am SECRETS AND LIES (15) Mike Leigh's

Palene d'Or winning drauss, ABC Panton. 1,40, 5,00, 8,00, Odeon Messamus 2,20, 5,2 8,20, Swiss Codage Odeon 2,40, 5,25, 8,10 THE SECRET OF ROAN MISH (U) Poetic time section of the way count of treated. ARC Parton St 1.15, h to SENSE AND SENSEMBLY (U) Emma Thompson stars in this adaptation of Jane Austen's chaote novel. Ordern Measuruse 2.30, 5.30, 8.25 SHORE: 115 | Episodic New York dramn. MGM Swits Centre 1.20, 3.45, 6.10, 8.40 STREPTEASE | 15: Provice connect star-ring Demi Moore. Odeon West End 12.40, 3.15, 6.00, 8.40

THEATRE

Thistory set in what oppears to be the process of in what oppears to be the process of in what oppears to be the process of interest in what oppears to be the process of interest in what oppears to be the process of interest in what oppears to be the process of interest in what is a set in what

The Alchemist (above) Mad Max meets Ben Jonson in Bill Alexander's enjoyable revival. Simon Callow excels as the Protean-Face, Tim

Shakespeares dark and ridding corrects Direc-tor Madfrew Lloyd explores the play's sexual-ity to reconcile the inherent tension between Helena's transcendent tove and Parolles' cyn-

icism: Royal Exchange, Manchester to 19 Oct Blinded by the Sun Stephen Poliakon's new

play describes the consequences of scientific fraud in an academic institution. National

Theatre: Cottesioe, London to end Dec

THE STUPPOS (PG) Family enthusiasm that translates as stuppdity, starring Tom Arnold. ABC Ton Or Rd 1.30, 4.05, 6.45, 9.25 A TIME TO ROLL 115) Missassopsi-set theiller starring Sandra Bullock. ABC Tut On Rd 1.50, 5.36, 6.35; Bartnaan Cinema 6.00, 8.40; Virgin 5.56, 6.55; Barbain Cinema (10), 8.40; Vagin Harmarka: 1.30, 4.57; Vagin Tionalen 1.20, 5.10, 5.20, 5.45, 8.30, 9.70, 1.210mm TRAINSPOTTING (18) Adaptation of Irvine Wesh's novel. Plant 430, 8.55; Warner West End 1, 30, 4.70, 6.15, 8.40, 11,00 Comedy starring Uma Thorman, Plaza 1.50, n.20; Warner West End 6,20, K.40

6.35; Humer heat End 6.33, 4.40
TWISTER [195] Rival meteorylogists tackle
the largest tornado to lat Oklahoma this
century. Empire Lete Square 12-40, 3.31, 6.07,
8.01 (Cap. Incodero 12-30, 3.00, 5.30, 8.10
EP CLOSE & PERSONAL (15) Starring
Reford and Michelle Pisaller. ABC
Panion 5, 3.30, 8.25
West End Booking Lines

may key a hoolsing lee,
ABC Panton St 0/81-970 6021; ABC Pacachily (Tormerly MGM) 437 3501; ABC
Shafterbury Ave 0/81-970 6013; ABC Tottenham Court Rd 0/81-970 6032; Burbican
Conema 638 8891; Cutzon Maytair 309 1720;
Cutzon Phoenix 369 1721; Cutzon West End
649 1722; Empion Leis 20 0004-88900; Curron Phoenix 369 1721; Curron West End 369 1722; Empire Leie Sq. 0000-80000; Lumiere 36 0691; MGM Swiss Centre 0181-070 0017: The Minema 369 1723; Odern Haynarket 0181-313 4712: Odeon Leie Sq. 939 1722: Odeon Merzenine 930 3723; Odeon West End 0181-315 4721; Plaza 0900-805000; Renoir 337 8412: Virgin Hay-market 0181-970 0010; Virgin Trocachero 0181-970 6015; Warner West End 437 4343,

repertory cinema

EVERYBIAN Hollybush Val. NW.

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(III71-435 1525)
Le Meyric 1151 Sat 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 2pm; Sun 4.50pm, 0.45pm, 2pm; The Wild Bunch (18) Sat 11.15pm The Tempest 1151
Sun Ipm + Madagascur Sun 2.45pm
SeT South Bank SEI (III71-928 3232)
Le Confessional (15) Sat 7.30pm Act Of Murder (PO) Sat 4.15pm Elephant Boy (U) Sat 4pm Flesh For Frankoustein, 3-D Film (18) Sat 8.30pm The Bubble: 3-D Film (PG) Sat 6.10pm The Third Man (PG) Sat 6.30pm Essay Rider (18) Sat 8.45pm
Revenge Of The Stragan Women: 3-D Film (18) San 0.10pm The Ladybillers (U) Sun 4.15pm Wild Strawberries (15) San 7.30pm

10(7) 437 81811
Dead Man [18] Sat A signer Heat (15) Sat
D. Signer Protes Fear [18] Sat Spen Toy Story
PG] Sat J. Nym Executive Decision (15)
Sat Spen How To Make An American Quit
15] Sun Apra Leaving Les Vegas [18] Sion
6. Open The Burdenge [15] San 8-15 pm Blue
In The Face [15] San 2pm IUC71-437 81811 RAYERSIDE Crisp Rd W6 (0181-741 2255)

Vanya On 42nd Street (U) Sat n.4Spm 4 August (PG) 9.10pm Urga (PG) Sun 530pm + Time Of The Copens (LS) 7.51pm THEATRE

West End Choice

Mauners — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tive. [4]: Wed. [5]: Tlav. [6]: Fn. [7]: Sut ASHES TO ASHES Harold Pinter's drama stars Lindsay Dunca CASH ON DELIVERY Bradley Walsh plays a DSS cheat in Michael

Cooney's tarce Whitehall Whitehall, SW1 10171-369 1735) BR-9 Charing X Mon-Fri 5 Oc. Sat N.30, [4] 3 10. [7] 5 30, provious £7.54-£15 1.55 mans. AN IDEAL HEISEAND Peter Half's revival of his 1/92 production.

Old Vic Waterlou Road, SE1 (#171-925 6/65) BR 49 Waterlou, Mon-Sai 7.30, [4][7] 3.01, ands 23 Nov. & - £24, 165 mms CHDERTRANSPORT Drama Outek and Jean Bold care in Drame Samuels' drama. Vandevalle Strand, WCC (0171-36/9987)

BR & Chang X. Mon-Sut 810, [4][7] 300, 503-523-50 135 mins MARTIM CURRIE Boulvil and Schonberg's musical. Prince Edward Vid Compton Street, W1 [147]—73-895 [] © Leaster Square, Mon-sar 7-45, [5][7] 3-00, £16-50-£32-50.

(18) San October the Compenses (19) San Ashim The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie (U) Sun Gayan Dynasty: 3-D Film (18) Sun & Open A Boy's Life (18) Sun & Oyen Elephant Boy (U) Sun dyn PRINCE CHARLES Levicester Place WCZ LYNIC STUDIO The Fell of the Heese of Coherette

YOUNG VIC Blood Wooding Ted Hughes' new verson of

Around the country

SOUTH HILL PARK ARTS CENTRE Will the Heal Langus Dean Stand Up

Bristol

BOYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

Seven Streams of The River Ota Robert Lepage's upic fable of the half century since the miclear explosion at Hiroshma. Today 2.45pm. 455 mins.

Conestor:

Binded By Tim Sun Stephen Poliakoff's se-entific detective story stars Frances de la Tour and Graham Crowden. Toulay 2.30pm & 7.30pm. 150 mins. Olivier: 88-E34. Lytte-tom: £15-£42. Cotteshor: £12-£16 South Bank. London SE1 9PX (017) 925 2252 ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY: The Barbarane Might's Dream Adrian Noble's acclaimed production, Mon-Sat 7.15pm, mass The & Sat 2.00pm, in rep until 5 Crt.

180 mms.
The Pix.
Plant Guethe's grantest dramatic work in a new and complete version by Howard Been-tonight 7.15pm, each 5 Oct. Part One; 195 mms. Part Two: 180 mms. Barbiest Theatre: 86-824-90. The Pit; LIU-E17.

Neil Bartlett directs his adaptation of this erote take of a trage; obsession for a castrato Lwie Hammersmith King Street, Wo (018)-741 2311 © Hammersmith, Mon-Sat 7.30, mat 12 Oct. 4pm, ends 12 Oct. £10-£15, all sents Mon £5, 120 mms.

UNCLE WATER
Bill Bryden dances Denek Jacoby in the title Ball beyon; units, beyon a more of Chekhov's drama,

Alber, Sr Martin's Lane, WC2 (0)71-364

17:0) & Lere Sq. Mon-Sar 7:30, [4][7]3:00,
ends 16 Nov. £[0-£25, [57 mms.

Beyond the West End London

What's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf Alber's warm antenu vagana uma Airos a manipularos (ragi-comedy starring Daria Roga and Darid Sachet, Mon-Sat 7,30pm, mass Sat 3pm, ende 26 Oct. £654-£1954, cones avalable. Almesta Struct, NI (117)-3594404) ⊕ Angel. ARTS THEATRE

arrs Thermee.
Love, Lost and Murrhage Fenchs Fickling
Gars in four excepts from the mescel
Cantertury Thes. From 24 Sep. Mon-Sar
Spin, man 29 Sep. 5, 15pin, ends 5 Os. 54,50512-94. Often Newport Street, WC2 (017)836 21721 © Lokester Square. BLOOMSHARY THEATRE

Othelle Highly visual production by National Youth Theatre, exposing the dark elements of Shakemane schame, Entirely 7.45 mm, 85of Shakespeare's drame. Traight 7.45pm. £ 110, cons. £6. Gordon Street, WC1 (0171-368/802) BR 49 Euston.

The residence of the control of the control of the form of the control of the co

Lorea's masterpiece about at assessment is directed by Tim Supple. Man-Sat 7-30pm. ends 2 Nov. 114, once £7.50. The Cut, SE1 10171-928 (3/43) BR/O Waterloy.

Hearte Royal.

Blue Burder Anton Rodgers stars in a Peter
Nichols connect that understines the cazy
own entiars of 60s drawing room larea.

Today 2.30pm & opm. 57-119.90, comes
smallable. Saw close (01225-148844) Bracknell

Endeane Beckett's existential masterpiece and his direct passe about old age are

THEATRE ROYAL
The Beats Stratagest Lin Hasting
products and George Furquitar connects of
list, love and lies, More-West 7,347m. This-Sat Spm. ands 12 Oct. 25 9 5 E18, cones available. King Street (0117-087 7877) Cardiff

THE POINT
The Sea That Blazed New drama about a young woman's refuctance to follow in her number's lootstape. Fought Spin Et. comes £3, Mount Stuart Square [0]202-4-40] 7-49-679] Chichester

Brief Economics Hayley Mills stars in this remainst drawn based on the film. Today 2. Upm & 7.30pm. £(0-£22.50, comes Mon Pn. Oaklands Park (012/3-781312)

EXHIBITIONS

Gallery, London from Thur.

THE TRUBBLE WITH CHILD THE ATTE

The Treatle With Child Lawers Directoures at a duncer party cause problems for two complex in Angela Heath's drawn which store 3 manual August August 2 Norm & Spon. £10-£19-50, cones available. Militrook (01483-44000)

Norwich HADDEBLANNET THE ATRE Town Of Boney An inventor (alses his death in order to receive an inheritance in Afan Ayakhotarn's reworking of the Akhyych force. Mon-Sat 7:30cm, mat Sat 2:30cm, ends 28 Sep. 27:37:27:30. cancer available. St. John's Alley (01:603-626560)

Nottingham MOTTDICHAM PLAYHOUSE Pegoere Lawrence Beswell directs Bon Plans's staire on cinema violence. Man-Sat 7,30pm, ends 12 Oct. £4.75-£14, cones available. Wellington Circus (0) 15-941 9419)

DOSE THEATRE

MUSE TREATME.
The Buck Beld/Edwin Double-bill of courtroom comedies from the barrester-turned-writer John Mortimer, Today 2,30pm 8, 730pm 2,10, Rose Place, St Aldaies (U1865-79850)) **Plymouth**

THE ATMS BOTH!
A Bod's Human Henrik Theory's competition as starting James McTeer. Tenight 7, 34pm. 27.54-516.50, cones available. Royal Parade 101752-267222) Reading

THE SEXACON
Hard Three Philip Modec and Janet Brown
star in Dickens' array of a yrong damsell who
moets a handrowne sethics. Today 1,30pm &
7,30pm, 82,50£14.50, cross avoidable.
Queens Wulk (01734-591591) Michael RECEIVED THE ATTE

Fartman's Faol Targeore's comic masterpiece starring Alam Baies, set on a wealthy St Petersburg estate. Today 2.30pm & 7,45pm. 6-C30, ones are atable. The Green (0181-9430038) Stratford apon Avou

THE OTHER PLACE
The Learned Leafler Sleven Furnish directs
Molecre's social satire, with Nisarh Cusack and Roger Allam. In rep. tonight 7.30pm,

ends 4 Oct. EL150-£1750. outhern Lane (01789-295623) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE Trebes & Crassita Joseph Fictures and Vic-toria Hamilton head Lan Judge's productor of Shalompeare's war epic. In rep. tonight June and 4 Oct. 16.50-155.50.

As You Ules R Steven Pimiett's produ

In rep. mat today Ipm, ends 5 Oct. £6.50-£35.50. Watersde (UI 789-295£3) SWAX THEATRE The Wife Berll Gale Edwards directs Jane Gurnett, In rep. mat today 1 Mpm, ends 5 Oct. 23-229.50. The General From America Richard Nebeco

emotionally probing portrait of the latted US general Benechet Arnold. In rep. tonight 7.30pm, ends 4 Oct. 19-129 St. Waterside (0) 789-295023)

EXHIBITIONS Chichester

SCULPTURE AT COOPHOOD for Scripture at Cookwood Includes work in Richard Deason, Poter Randall-Page and re Mentelu (Passili Peter Pantain-rege ii Cathy de Monchaux, Thu-Sai (1930an-4.30pm, ends 2 Nov. 17.50 (£10 Saiurday) Hai Hill Coper (01243-538449)

London RAPESCAN SET CALLERY Shunesfeld: A Fathsh For Beauty/Jan

CAMPEN ARTS CENTRE
Barosti Messang: Priots 1961-69
Sworestreal abstraction (also work by
Andrew Leed and James Welling) The Thu
Chron-Sprin, Fire Sun Chrom-Sprin, ends (D
No., Inc., Arkanght Rend, NW3)11171-135
2043-52241-9 Firetiley Rend, Inc. COURTMALD INSTITUTE CALLERIES The Four Elements Includes work by Durer and Process Man-bat Dam-Spin, San Spin-ters from Somerest House. Strand, W.C. 1017 1-873/252-1-9 Embanking at. corns contrary Creates including Edeon Gray and Run Arad. Mon. Fri 1 L30am-dops. Sat/Sen 12000n-6pm. erotis 6 Oct. 14.75, cones £3.50. Butters Wharf, SE1 (0171-403 6933) & Tower Hill.

BAYMAN GALLERY

Nohert Happletherpt Recruspective of photographs including still fives. Moo-Sun 10am-6pm (until 8pm 7te & Wed) ends 17 Nov. £5, coates £3.50. Belvedere Read, SE1 (0171-960-6242) BR/O Waterloo. UCTOWAL CALLERY

MATERIAL CALLEY
Mere Acquisitions Habon's Christ (aking leaves
of his Mother and Albrecht Durer's Saint
Jerner Mou-Set (Dam-épen (Wed mit)
8pm (Sun Labon-épen, ends 13 Oct, free.
Trafnigar Square, WC2 (D171-809.3321)

Charing Cross.

HETOHAL POSTRAIT GALLERY BP Portrait Assert National Year PP Per half Assert National yearty portrainure show: Ends 20 Oct, froe. The Victorius to the Nov Elizabethure Re-vamped galleries. More-Sax Home-dym, Sun Lincon-dym, free S. Wartin's Place, WC2 (0171-306 (035) 49 Classing Cross.

SANTER GALLERY
Young British Artists VI Sculpture, paintings
and drawings by five artists. Thu-Som
L2ncon-éptit, ends 24 Nov. Thu free, Pri-Sun
£3.50, Boundary Road, NWS (0171-624
8299) BR: South Hampstead. Oxford

Christ Chincil Picture Callery
Besterpiness From Christ Church Old master
drawings inchasing Leonardo and Van Dyck.
Mos-Sai 10.30am-1 pm. 2pm-5.30pm, Sun
2pm-5.30pm, ends 12 Nov. £1, cones 50p.
Christ Church College (01865-276150)

STIVES DUE GALLERY the la Cornell Rothby's visit to S Ives explored in a display enhabition aslongside St Ives artists, More-Sat 1 Jani-7pm, Sun 11am-Spm, ends 3 Nov. £3, cones £1 50. Portheneor Beach (01736-796226) COMEDY

COMMENT BOR AT THE BUSTON FITTER
Brundine Buttes Rex Boyd and the BBC
Stand Up Cornedy Award either, Marchs
Brigstecke, Tunight 8.45pm, Glouchter Ros 10117-0121779155.

ST EMPRINGSBURY CRITHERPRAL English Hartings Geometry/Maps (Lookel's Zaskik the Priori and Boothoven's Choral Symphony, Tonoglu 7,30pm, 85-618. (11234-754033) Cambridge : VICTORIA WOOD AT CORN EXCHANGE Laughter from Lancastire, Torright 7,30pm. Whoeler Street (01223-357851) phone for

REIDHA CAMERON AT DREL RALLAKTS The Scottish lessie in her first a 40 Landon thow, Tonight 7.30pm & 9.30pm, San 7.30pm, ends 28 Sep. Chemics St. WCI (0171-637 8270) & Goodige St. 19-10. comes ES.

COMPLY STORE PLAYERS

CREE PROOPS AT ROSE THEATHE Humanur Gron the Linky American Sun 7. Open. Rose Place. St Aldates (01865-79840) phone for prices.

APMOLFRE Weedy Rossinsk: Kamited And Denoted

Donable bill of old and new work from

EXETER & DEVOK ARTS CENTRE

Least Javantas Theories Corcumulai Risses Exploration of sexuality and guit through maximum and week. Emight April. 6th one-54 Bendanch Place. Guide Street 102392-1211111

Oxford

DANCE

Bristol

Exeter

Beer masonth Symphony Orchestra/HIII Tetralkovsky's Record Monatons with Resel's Michel Eures BATTERSEA Michely Hutum, Oto Comelioni, Al Murroy, rehestration of Musiconsky's Pictures at a John Moloney, The Tracy Brothers, 7.15pm & 11.15pm, Lavender Gardens, 5W (1 (0171-924 2706) BR: Choham Jurcalen, £(0, cours £7. Estalvian. Toright 7.30pm. E-625. 150/Bustreparish Projudice's 2nd Violan Concerto and Estalkovsky's 4th Symphony. MINCH FLES CAMBER ica 7.30pm. £6-£30. Ring Lears Catagora Tim Clark, Phil Davey, Vladinah McTavasti, Bill Bailey, Seria Mee, 7,15pm & 11,15pm, Chalk Farm Road, NWI (0171-924-2766) Sun 7-30pm, 16-1-30.

Beautonaue B. Symphony Orchostra/Hickor.

Elgar's 6 oratoric The Kingdom, Sun 7-30pm 17-125. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638

(971) & Moorgate. O Canden Twee, 210, cones £7. UP THE CHEEK Signer Cleyton, Kenth Dower, Pani B Edwards, Dylan Moran, Spri, Creek Road, SE10 10181-8584581) BR: Greenwich, £12. ST MINDES Webbrs Chamber works by Bach, Schubert, Weber and Ravel, Tonight 7.30pm. E6-E10. Smith Square. SW1 (0171-222 1061)

PURCELL ROOM Lee Samson, Neil Mullarkey, Richard Vensh, Jan Sweeney, Paul Micton, Josie Lawrence, Sun Sput, Oktodon Street, SW1 (01426-914433) & Piccadilly Circus, £10. Gloka, Mussurgaley, Tchaskovsky and Rachmaniaov, Sun 3, 15pan, 25-20-30 South Bank Centre, SE1 (11)71-961-4242) BR/O Waterloo.

Committee Russian chamber works by Rachmaninov, Stochakovich and others, Konghi 7.45pm. E6.0-112. South Bank, Centre, SE 110171-960-4242) BRAG Waterloo. WHEMORE HALL

wnamufiz Hull. Edith Whata/Obrer Widmar Hugo Welfs 27 beder settings of Mortle, Evnicht 7.3 Jun. ET 31-215. Selofats of the Royal Opera Heese Including Serenades by Roussel and Mozart. Sun Tym Screnacks by Rouse) and Mount. Sun Type. Lis 112 Wigmore Street, W1 JH171-935 2141: Blond Street. Newtown

THEATR MAPRIME
BUC National Orcinotra of Wales/Otald
Mozart's very. In Symphony and Carfact
Competiowth Shelino and Symphony.
Sun June 110, comes Ex.
June 100, comes **OPERA**

our Hight's Drawn Britten's operatic version of Shakespeare's comedy in an ENO revisal by Carlos Wagner of Robert Carsen's original production. Tonight 6.30pm. Id-50-155. St Martin's Lane, WC2 (017)-632 830(f) + Leicester Square. BOTOL OPERA HOUSE

BOTHA UPERA HOUSE

Bes Bhalapadd The first part of Wagner's stralegy new taking its place in the Royal Opera's cycle, directed by Richard Jones. Zhuight Jim. J.-1.1.47.9 R. Cowent Garden, WC.10171-3944000) & Cowent Garden. POP

Black wood

Emergiou Haors (above) The Country gravials the fact of the fact o

CLASSICAL

Flamenco Express Passionale Flamenco with modern influence. Panight Spm. 17, concs 25. High Street. Barner (0181-449 0048)

European Raffett Carmen Passionne fully-costumed ballet set in summertime Seville. Sun 7.30pm. £9.50-£10.50, comes available. Grange Road (0/81-561 8371)

Grange Road (0161-551 8571)

PICCABELY THE ATRE

Advantages in Bioline Pictures: Swen Lake

Manthew Bourne's acclaimed vermon with

male curps of swens. Today 2.00pm

(XempyWright/Moruman) & 7.30pm

Piccaeffly Circus.

Islant Phononce Paradottate Sparish danning Sun 7.45pm. 19-E13.50. South Bank Centre, SEI (8171-960-6242) BR/O Waterloo.

THAT LE REY MATE CERTIFIC TO POPULATE REY MATERIA TO CHARLE USING A YORK MOVEMENT WAS A CHARLES TO A CHARLES AND A

Wor Linning
COMMANDATT THEATHE
Count Builder Great: Red Binley Bood & The
Laguard Of Wolves: Rivy-tale habit with
Mendelsnobs some, Today 2,30pm &
S-40-91 concervallable.

European Rullet Darmen Presidente fully-costumed belief at in nammertime Seville, Theiry Jom & 7,30pm, £10,50-£12,50, Hendford (01935-22594)

Plann Concerts, Debussy's La Mer at Ravel's Balero, Sun 245pm, EB-£15. Charch Street (01273-769709)

GLYROESOLISTE OPERA HOUSE
Louder Philipponis/Morrington Orchestra

Mozert and Rossini arias, Tought Son, £100-

MAYES BECK THEATRE

QUEEN ELEVANETE HALL

TURTLE KEY ARTS CENTRE

7.30pm. £5-£9.50, concs avail. Upion Place (01903-235333)

OCTAGON THEATRE

CLASSICAL

Bury St Edmunds

ESIO, Glyndebourne House

Brighton

Leves

London

AREICAK BALL

Worthing

Yeavil

Miles Poters, Sid Griffin Accountic singu songwriting from the former leader of epic rockers The Alarm. Miners Institute High Street (01495-227206) Sun Rpm, £c. Bournetnorth
Johny Moths US MOR singer with a new collection of love songs, All Albour Love Bournemouth International Centre Exoter Road (0) 202-297/2977 Thought 7pm, £22.50-£27.50.

Bristol
Idia Poters, 5M Griffin See Blackwood.
The Fleers St Thomas Street (0117-927
7150) Tonight 7.30pm, £6.

Phil Boy Chicago biacs gentarist, brother of Boddy. 100 Club Oxford St W1 (0171-636 0933) ⊕ Oxford Circus, Sun 7,30pm, £8. The Bodes Canadian folk and Crustry-vocters. Benderine Manotte Street, Charing Cruss Road W1 (0171-734 2005) ⊕ Leicus-tes Street Toucht Street, Charing

Cross Rosel W1 (0171-734 2095) & Leicester Square. Benghi 8pm. Sun 7pm. 53.

Lein Blasm Urish singer-scoperitor, prother of Christy Moore. Lear Cafe Parloray NW1 (0171-344 0044) & Cannden Youn, Sun 7pm. ends 24 Sep. E12, and £10.

Anne Bund & Krustrock legends of the 7lis. Little Empire. Shepherd's Bush Empire Shepherd's Bush Cross W12 (0181-740 7474) & Shepherd's Bush (018 and Counsy singer-sangwriter from the school of bard knacks. Wistoniant Arts Carnor Fligh Street TW3 (0181-568 §176) & Gunnersbury, Toolgh! 10.30pm. £8.

Nottingham Terry Allien Sec London. Festival Inn Difestion Road, Trowell (0) 15-Festival Int Blicatou reason 932 2691) Sun Open, IZ. Oxford

Tiger Anti-fashion synth-pop band. The Zediec Cowley Road [0]865-7263361 Twight \$20pm, £5. Reading Biorn Aguin Airba tribute. The Hexagon Quocus, Walk (01734-591541) Sun 7.30pm, ER.50-E10.50.

Southerd on-Sea The Binotones, Conera Hounston Britopp stars, with unach-topped Scousts support. Cliffs Parillon Station Road, Westchille-on-Sen [01702-351135] Sun 7-30pm, £8.50.

Berkhamstead Art ThesesqOse Weller/Alan Baruse Sentet Three excellent British mainstream-to-mod-em saxists, with pannet Dave Newton. Berkhannsteal Izz: Society Cruc Centre (01525-220894) Tonight 8pm. £7, mems £5.

Patrick Claim Quartet Acid Jazz-allifiated multi-reeden with his growe-based quarter, 60n Club Leus Road SW(0) [017]-352-5953] © Pullium Breadway, Tonight 10pm, £4.50, Bernin Bloom Quartet Vibra with vocalist Story Kent and oruntry-linged guitarist Gary Potter. 606 Clab Lots Road SW [II [171-352 5953]

 Fatham Broadway, Sun 9,30pm, E4.

Aude Ross Scatty Anglo-American cabaret diva and star of Robert Altman's Short. Curs. Cafe Revail Regent Street W1 (0171-437 7090) ♦ Paccaddly Circus Toroght Spra. code 28 Sep. 125.

George Bielly & John Children's Feetwageners
The Gary Gitter of trad jazz with trumpeter Humphrey Lynchon
Doctor Maker Share Hest Fire Center West-

em Avenue, Ealing W5 (0171-344 4444) & Park Royal Tonighi (230pm, 2150) Tom Browne Jazz-lank trampeter, of Jamarca Fork Lane, Jazz Cofe Parkway NWI [0171-344 (B44) & Camden Town Smetht 7pm, E12 adv £HL Tangan opin, 112, 302 210.
Budy Berff Quartet Swing corner revivalest from Berton with gustaret Howard Alden, Part Express Dean Street W1 (017) 439
87.22 © Rittenham Court Resal, Tangdit & Street and Court Resal, Tangdit & Street and Court Resal, Tangdit & Street and Court Resal.

Marrys Africa with the Edectic String Quar-Marya Africa with the Edectic String Quar-ter Enviror Abdullah thrahm-styled South African township panied hules up with Gabs farrell's arty New York quartet, Parrell Room South Bank, Centre SET 10171-060 12421 BROW Waterlow, Fought Spin, 1(0), Chin Jones Jazz Machine, Jon Shaw

Coltrane's legendary drummer with support from exhibitionistic crooner Ian Shaw, Ros-nic Scot's Frith St W1 (0171-439 0747) • Tott Ct Rd. Tonight Spm, £12, mems £7. Drivending Freeforing improv with grizzled pano genina Keith Topear, trumpeter Jim Dworak and bassist Roberto Bellatalla. Horter Stoke Newington Church Street N16 (017)-254 65161 BR: Stoke Newington. Sun Spm, £4, cones £3.

Oxford ou/Coorgo Hastem Billie Hothclay's punist plays ambient, ethereal music with haritone saxist Haslam. Helywell Music Room Holywell Street 101865-26L384) Sun Rrm, £8.

LITERATURE

Robert Shappard Poetry reading with move-ment by Jo Blowers. Tornano Meeting House Torrento Avenue NW5 (0171-267 2751) • Kentish Town, Sun 7,30pm, £2, exacts £1. **EVENTS**

Model Railway Exhibition 16th sonual exhibition, with 33 stands. Kneer School Faver-sham Read (01233-527450) Today 10.30am-5. Warn, San 10am-4. 30pm, £2, child £1,

The Beady Pool Show inspired by Scilly, for ages 5-10 years. Bristol Old 1 ic King Stream 10117-987 78771- Today 1 (am, £2. Cardiff
Hothwal Astronomy Work Observing sersions and talks. National Asymptomy Week,

Candiff Various Venues (01222-551704) From tuday times vary, ends 28 Sep. free. Cheftenham Ideal Bosse And Lateure Exhibition Includes Woman's World Edulytion and Kitchen. Food And Wine Festival. Twn Hall Impertal Square [01242-227979] Today & Sun, 10am-Spm, Fire-E2

Doncbester Jeongia (28 & Company Workshop Dance workshop for adults and youngsters over 14. Dorchester Arts Centre School Lane, The Grove (013/15-266926) Today Ham-12.30pm, £4.

London for ages 2-5, B4C Lavender Hill SW11 (0171-223 2223) BR: Clapham Junction. Today 2.30pm, £3, copes £2.50.

No. 7 Bundellin Street Puppet performance starting Major Mustard for ages 3-7. Linie Angel Manarette Theatre Dagmar Passage, Cross Street N I (0)71-25 17871 & High-ton & Manarette Street & Sec. 1887 & High-ton & Manarette Street & Sec. 1887 & Highbury & Ishngton, Today & Sun, Ham, £5, child/cones £4.50. lan Saville's Magic Show Illusion for ages

four and above. Lyric Hammersmith King Street W6 (0181-741 2311) & Hammer-smith. Today Ham & Ipen. £3.50. Lighter Collectors Fair Lighter roadshow with free valuation by panel of experts. Park Court Hotel Lancaster Gate W2 10181-665 4pm. £1.75.

Chinese Antonia Fastival Calabration of the autumn harvest, 1 leiceia & Albert Micrean Cromwell Rd SW7 (0171-938 8500) South Kensington, From today time vary, phone (0171 938 8038) for details CoDectors' Film Consenting Cinema collect tables and memorabilia. Weathinster Central Hall Storey, Gate SW1 (0171-22 4163-8010) & Westminster, Taday 10am-5pm, £1-£2.50. Maidstone

themed around classical pieces of music. Leeds Castle (01622-763-00) Today Ham-opm, 58, cones 68-30, child 18-20 Southampton

world's largest on-water basi show, with 600 craft, Western Equivaled (1) 784-4733771 Today & Sun, Dam-7pm, £7.50, child free. Staines
Greas Acting soundation and two music, for over thes Status Theater. The Old Konn.
Hall Arts Center Market Square (01784-

Windsor Windsor Festival Ventable museral least. (01753-623400) From Sun, times vary, ends

5 Lies. Phone for details

Church services

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Halt. Chinal Malgine Eschai.

**BESSUL EMBERBAL, 7.4Qurn Malting: Stein H.C., 10am Choral Eucharist, Christcherich mass | Archer I. Cason John Stapassu: 3.3Qurn Choral Eucharist, Sentenanding Challesh sam H.C. 10am Sung Eucharist, Harrist in P. J. Likim Choral Communion, Spanetemotor (Maltirit, Alfred Choral Evenande, Howells in G. GREUBERRO GHISTERL, 7.3Qurn Choral Evenande, Howells in G. GREUBERRO GHISTERL, 7.3Qurn Marting Prayer Aum H.C. The Vice Provoct: 4.3Qurn Enchairst The Provost; 11.1Sum Sung Eucharist, Darke in E. Canon Berry Thompsowit Spin Choral Evenande, Mosel in E. Canon Evenande, Malting States and E. Canon Experimental Computer Spin Choral Evenande, Mosel in E. Canon Evenande, Malting States and E. Canon Evenande, Malting States and E. Canon Evenande, Malting States and Calculation and Calculation of the Challesh and H.C. 10am Malting Short and Calculation and Calc

maser.

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Mass for tour redoct (Bridg, Canon Christophe) Mongan (2.15pm HC, Apm Deussons attended by the Reyal Periodi Leep of Blate in B masse.

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The Rev Philip Wood.

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Why the Scots have an awful lot to answer for

It'a funny how George Graham takes over at Leeds, and everybody expects miracles. Kenny Dalglish would be welcome at any club, anywhere; he could probably join the ground staff and the club would think their time had come. You see, the Scots have giveous many things over the years, among them raincoats, whisky, welly boots, the bicycle pedal, the telephone. Larmac, penicillin, the Bank ramcoats, whisky, welly boots, the bicycle ped-al, the telephone, tarmac, penicillin, the Bank of England and an understanding of the ac-tive principles of cannahis. But they've also given us great football managers, as surely even the most begrudging Sassenach will ad-enit. Busby. Shankly, Nicholson, Stein, Dalglish, Graham and Ferguson have large-ly dominated British football since the 1950s. In fact, in the last 25 years Scottish managers have won the League Champi-

in the last 12 years. Jock Stein was the only one never to venture south of the border (you can hardly count two sorry months in charge of Leeds in 1978), but he did win back-to-back titles with Celtic from 1966-1974 (leaving Scotland's Old Firm with an obsession with the number nine which has reached a crescendo this season). The cyn-

managers have won the League Championship 11 times, nine of those wins coming

ics will say Big Jock had little competition, but Stein's Lisbon Lions were as close to perfec-

tion as it gets.

We know why the Africans make great runners and the Chinese are peerless at pingpong, but it's not easy to isolate why the Scots are so adept at managing football teams. Most of the greats shared similar working-class hackgrounds, which is perhaps where the seeds of their desire were sown. It's ont that they wanted to prove to their "soft southern counterparts" that they were better than them; they simply wanted to be the

The trend started with Sir Matt Busby in the 1950s, a man who even Shankly looked up to. Wheo Shanks was manager of Hudup to. Wheo Shanks was manager of Hud-dersfield, Denis Law recalls seeing him sidle up to the dressing mirror brandishing a tril-by (a trademark of Busby'a), putting it on at a jaunty angle and asking: "D'ye no' think I look like Sir Matt Busby, boys?" Shankiy even drank sherry when Busby offered it to him, even though Shankly didn't drink. He played to the gallery did Shankly; he had a puritan-ical streak about him tempered with a wit that ical streak about him tempered with a wit that endeared him to his players, as Emlyn HughOlivia Blair



es testifies: "He dido't want to appear weak in any way. He'd be running with you, laugh-ing and joking. At the end of training he'd walk in and say, You know something, boys? When I die I want to be the fittest man ever

Alex Ferguson did his compatriots a hig favour by wiping out the argument that to be successful in management down south you had first to progress through the ranks of the English game. Fergie came south with im-

sent homewards to think again before United (luckily for them, not so for the rest of us) kept faith in his ability to hring success to Old Trafford.

But despite producing some brilliant club managers, Scottish national managers have hardly set the heather alight. Paddy Crerand, who played for the blue jersey in the 1960s, believed that "if Busby, Stein or Shankly had been Scotland manager from maybe 1958 to 1970. I think you'd probably have seen the Scottish team win the World Cup finals." He

Scottish team win the World Cup finals." He did add that it may sound daft...

But Busby, Shankiy and Stein would surely turn in their graves at the receot madness of the Scottish managerial merry-go-round. First to go was Jimmy Thomson, sacked by Raith Rovers three games into the season. He was replaced by Timmy McLean who stayed in Krikcaldy just five days before heing recruited by his brother, Jim. "Grim" McLean, to take over from Billy Kirkwood. McLean, to take over from Billy Kirkwood as manager of Dundee United. It wasn't that McLean did it, it was the way he did it that shocked: just 45 minutes after Kirkwood had said his goodbyes and departed, McLean was

sitting in the same seat, posing for photographers and explaining how he would make the Tannadice club great again.

Next. Iain Munro leaves Hamilton, apparently to replace Jimmy Bone who had walked out at St Mirren. It transpires, both ever, that Munro hadn't signed a contract at Love Street and is set to become Raith Love Street and is set to become Kalth Rovers' third manager in as many weeks. In-stead new manager Tony Fitzpatrick takes charge at St Mirren (and immediately takes the heat off his players by taking them for a slap-up meal—at a Paisley fish and clup shop). Who said the Scots knew how to celebrate in style?

Meanwhile Alex Smith positions as Chelo

Meanwhile Alex Smith resigns as Clyde manager, and Steve Archibald is sacked at East Fife. And don't be surprised if Hibs man-ager Alex Miller nr Partick'a Murdo MacLeot are next for the chop.

MacLeod are next for the chop.

Jock Stein was right, up to a point, wheo he famously said: "We all end up forgotten men in this business. You're very quickly forgotten." The best will never be forgotten because they set standards for the rest: standards which the late, great Bill Shankly enterprised.

Leader learns from his wife

TIM GLOVER reports from Loch Lornand

Jean Van de Velde had a word with the wife and established a course record in the second round of the Loch Lomond World Invitational; Howard Clark spoke to his better half and promptly disqualified himself.

Some people cao play the course, others can't," John Paramor, the tournament director, said as the European Tour

came in for more heavy flak.

The number of players below par dwindled to a handful on a day when the majority thought the positions of the flags made a difficult course virtually unplayable. The Anzac axis of Frank Nobilo and Peter O'Mallev were particularly critical after scoring 79 and 78 respectively. "Some of the pin positions were ridiculous," Nobilo said, before packing his bags. "This is the sixth or seventh time it's happened this wear." time it's happened this year."
Nohilo wants a non-Euro-

pean on the executive. "We would be more honest in our opinions," he said. Another player said: "All the members are Ken Schofield's ves men." Schofield, the executive director of the Tour, is still dealing with the backlash from the British Masters at Collingtree,

O'Malley, who comfortably made the half-way cut here yes-terday despite standing at six over par, said: This is one of the best courses and they've gone and stuffed it up. The pin positions are an absolute disgrace. Some-one needs to be fired. They won't listen and they haven't got a clue what they're doing."

Gordon Sherry also joined in even though he is the touring professional for Loch Lomond. He described the pin positions as a "joke", adding: "It's a stern enough test without making the course stupid. They have to make the greens softer. This is not the real Loch Lomond."

The discord was oot unanimous and, in fact, the ground staff have been watering the greens, hardened by lack of rain, overnight. Colin Montgomerie, three strokes off the lead, gave short shrift to the moaners. Tell them to go and play in Asia," Monty said,

Van de Velde shot 65, coming home in 31 with just 11 putts. He his wife, Brigitte. "She thought I was doing something wrong, the Frenchman said. "She only plays about three rounds a year

but she is an incredible putter." Howard Clark, following an 82 in the first round, returned to his hotel, rang his wife and in the process of describing his round realised he had signed for a five at the 13th hole instead of a six. He informed the tournament office and was disqualified for signing for a wrong score. At Collingtree he also made a premature departure, on that oc-

casion hlaming a shoulder injury. The par here is 71 although it is playing more like a 74. Nick Faldo had a 73 and at one under for the tournament is only two strokes behind Thomas Bjorn despite missing three short putts to drop strokes at the third, fourth and fifth. Faldo bade farewell to Tom Weiskopf. one of his playing partners and the man principally responsible for designing Loch Lomond GC, who finished at 15 over par.

Ferguson welcomes Villa test

First impressions are so ofteo misleading. Three games into this season Sheffield Wednesday were the only Premiership team with a 100 per cent record, Everton were unbeaten and had the air of title contenders, Newcastle had lost twice and were playing like a bunch of mistits, and pointless Wimhledon were looking as though their Pre-

miership days were numbered. Three games later and the memory of those early Premiership tables is fading as fast as the light oo a late September evening. Wednesday have taken one point out of the last six, Everton have lost three in a row, while Newcastle and Wimbledon have woo three in succession.

Anyone who drew hasty conclusions from this season's opening exchanges would have done well to look back to last year. On last season's opening day Manchester United's youngsters lost 3-1, eway to Aston Villa and it walcot only television analysts who were agreeing that "you'll

win nothing with kids". While Fergie's Fledglings went oo to win the Double, the match also proved a turning point for Villa, who had oar-rowly escaped relegation three mooths earlier. Brian Little's team ended the season fourth in the table and with the Coca-Cola

Cup in their trophy cupboard. When United were held to a goalless draw in the return match at Old Trafford Alex Ferguson described Villa as "dour and uncompromising", but as the champions prepared for their visit to Villa Park today their man-

ager was more charitable. "I have marked Villa down as a big threat to everybody this scason and Brian Little has done a terrific job in his one full season. in charge," Ferguson said.

With an eye on United's match in the Champions' League next Wednesday, he added: "They are powerful and play with three ceotre-backs, which is exactly the same way as Rapid Vienna, so maybe it isn't a bad game for us in that respect."

England's European contingentincluding both United and

Paul Newman

looks forward to an intriguing weekend in the Premiership

Villa, were excused from Coca-Cola Cup second-round duty this season, which could prove an advantage today to Liverpool and Newcastle in particular.

While Roy Evans and Kevin Reegan were able to focus their teams' attention in midweek on today's Premiership matches, their opposeots, Chelsea and Leeds respectively, were concentrating oo games against Blackpool and Darlington.

The Anfield meeting between the Premiership leaders and Rund Gullit's team is one to relish. Frank Leboeuf and Gianluca Vialli, rested for the trip to Blackpool, return, though Liverpool's major overseas summer signing, Patrik Berger, will have to wait until shortly before kickoff to find out whether he will make his full debut.

Berger scored twice after coming on as a second-half substitute at Leicester last week and hit two more for the Czech Republic against Malta in midweek. With Stan Collymore looking so out of touch, Evans may be tempted to change his starting line-up for the first time this season.

George Graham's first home match as manager of Leeds saw his new charges scrape a 2-2 draw at home to Darlington and Leeds again entertain Northeast opponents for his first Premiership match at Elland Road. The challenge, however, should be even greater as the visitors are Newcastle.

Tony Adams, who underwent a knee operatioo after Euro 96. may play his first Premiership game for Arsenal since January after being named in the squad for the trip to Middlesbrough, while Paul Rideout is ready to make his first start in the Premiership for six months for Everton, who will hope to take advantage of Blackburn's problems at Ewood Park.



Photograph: Robert Hallam

right) gives Britain a fine start in yesterday's Davis Cup match on Wimbledon's No 1 Court Rusedski gets ball rolling for Britain

Tennis

MIKE ROWBOTTOM reports from Wimbledon

So far, so good. Britain's Davis Cup team put themselves on the hrink of promotion from the Euro-African second division yesterday as Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski earned straightsets victories in the opening sin-

gles against Egypt.

If Neil Broad and Mark Petchey win their doubles match today, Britain will be contending oext year for entry to the World Group of the top 16 nations. An absorbing, rather than

arousing day's competition — distressingly interrupted by the collapse of an elderly speciator with a suspected heart attack was witnessed by a crowd of around 6,000. Many of them

were no doubt drawn by the sentimental opportunity of witoessing the last competitive action oo the No 1 court before

it is demolished. The 72-year-old court's natural intimacy was enhanced by the sense that it was the sole attractioo oo a day overcast enough to have the press photographers frowning at their light meters and chilly ecough for most of the 6,000 or so spectators to have come equipped

with overcoats and blankets. There was, thankfully, no call for the many umbrellas which

had also been brought along following recent weather reports. No distant thunders of applause came from neighbouring courts. Between points, more ofteo than oot, the only sounds were the lanyards ringing hollowly on the flagpoles at the top

of the stand, and hammering echoes from the oew No 1 court which is being completed in time for next summer's All England Championships.

Henman, who was returning to competition after injuring himself in the US Open, will be assured of a huge reception wheo he returns here next July. There was a sense of genuine excitement when he appeared yesterday, and he performed satisfactorily, despite the occasional lapse of concentration in a 6-0, 6-4, 7-5 win over 22-year-

old Amr Ghoneim, an opponent ranked 489 places below him. Considering it was Ghoneim's first serious match on grass, he did astonishingly well, and had Henman in real trouble at 3-5 and set point down in the third. But the 22-year-old from Oxford responded to the challenge,

breaking back and then winning the next three games

Comparing Davis Cup experiences with some of the players he now mixes with is uncomfortable for Henman. "When they hear that we are playing in division two it's embarrassing giv-en the standard of team we have now," he said. "That's why we are very anxious to get out of this posidon to where we belong

Rusedski had the harder task on paper, facing the top Egyptian Tamar El Sawy, ranked 174th in the world. The 24-year-old has played Davis Cup since he was 16, and last year he beat Karol Kucera, the Slovakian ranked 100 places above him.

But El Sawy's only experience on grass has been in Wimhledoo qualifying tournaments; Rusedski, on the other hand, thrives on the surface, and he

sooo acquainted his opponent with his serve-and-volley game, heginning his first two service games with two aces.

With the score at 2-2 in the first

set, both players left the court for nearly three quarters of an hour as medics attended to the stricken spectator in the north stand. Oo their return, Rusedski took command, winning the next four games to take the first set 6-2. The next set was relatively

straightforward, as he won 6-4, and when El Sawy double faulted to go 6-5 down in the third set, the match was effectively over. The Egyptian pair's hopes today were looking eveo less healthy as Ghoneim finished the

day requiring an ice pack oo a damaged racket hand.

DAVIS EURO-AFRICA 20NE Second Division (Minubledon): G Ruseuski (GB) bt T E Sevy (E) 6-2 6-4 7-5; T Herman (GB) bt A Ghorntim (Eg) 6-0 6-4 7-5, Britain lend 2-0.

Twin Towers looking to lift London

Basketball

Twins Peter and Paul Deppisch stage a shoot-out at Wembley tomorrow wheo the London Towers try to bounce back against the Manchester Giants following their midweek defeat in the European Cup.

writes Duncan Hooper. The Giants this week signed Peter who, like Paul, is 6ft 6in and also a long-range three-point specialist shooter.

Paul tutalled to three-pointers in Londoo's two wins in the Budweiser League last week-end. But he found Verona's defence a stiffer proposition in Italy in midweek and scored just once from 10 attempts as London lost 78-48 in their opening

Cup game. Steve McGlothin brings Derby Storm's North American complement to five tonight when he mates his debut against Hemel and Watford Royals alongside Rod Gregwoire, Jimmy Ratliff, Dion Harper and Canadian Cur-

he ondon Leopards are wait-cerfor work permit clearance corheir fourth American, Tim ber of c-weastle Comets whn dictments ex-Leopards, Greg hore trialed and Chris File. ាf outsi

Beeston aim to retain their title

The National League revised First Division gets under way to-day with a new format of 23 chubs meeting each other once during the seasoo with the new "no offside" rule being played, writes Bill Colwill. Last season's Second Division

champions Beeston are looking to retain their otle and this year gain promotion. For their home game with Hull they welcome back goalkeeper Danny Williams from Southgate and oewcomers Paul Sheardown from Hull, Brett Gillmon from Slough and Richard Stamp from Doncaster. Ian Patchett from Bournville is expected to

line up in the Hull squad. Runners-up Oxford University - away to City nf Portsmouth - welcome back their coach, Gavin Featherstone, who took them into the National League, after his spell with South Africa. New captain. the Kiwi Matt Barr, will be joined by two compatriots, Nicholas Pirihi and Juhn Mac-Cormick, who played for Cam-

bridge a few years back. National League newcomers Lewes make the short trip to Chislehurst to play Bromley who just avoided the drop last season.

Bassebpall

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Seattle 7 Teras 6; New York Yarkees 8 Batumore 3 filest match); Batumore 10 New York Yarkees 9; Boston 8 Detrort 3; Cleveland 8 Karass City 1; Chicago Winte Sox 8 Minuseota 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Los Angeles 7 San Dego Pressburgh 8 Cincinnato 4; New York Mets 7 Philadelpha 2; Montreal 5 Auterta 1; St. Louis 5 Chicago Cube 4 (13 Innings); Sen Francisco 11 Colorado 4.

Roming

Tommy Monison, the former heavyweight contender who seven months ago retired from boding after testing positive for the HIV virus, said yesterday that he plans to return to the ring. Monison does not have a date, site or an opponent for his return. He told a news conference that the return fight would be a benefit for children with HIV and ADS. George Foreman has seid he would gladly fight Morrison again: "In fight him, I sure would and I would try to knock him out," said Foreman, who lost by decision to Morrison three years ago. Peter Judson set his sights on the British title he claimed rightfully belonged to him after stooping Deen Phillips to win the International Boding Federation inter-continental super-featherweight to the mild manchester on Thursday, Judson triumphed in the 10th round when the exhausted Phillips was tescued from further punishment by referre Dave Parks. The Swanses fighter collapsed in his corner but was later able to leave the ring unsided. Yorishreman Judson's victory was only his trivial inside the distance in 35 fights, and he immediately issued a challenge to the London-Irish fighter P J Gallagher for a British title challenge.

Miguel Indurain repred from the Tour of Spain 30km from the end of yesperday's 13th stage after struggling to keep in touch with the pack in a tough moun-tain section. The five-times Tour de France winner, who started the section in third place overall, had slowed to talk to the team doctor on several occasions. The decision is done out has promote. The decision to drop out has prompt-ed further speculation that Induraln will announce his retirement from compe-tion soon.

SPORTING DIGEST TOUR OF SPINN 13th stage (Oxiede to Cangas de Cale, 185km/98miles) Leading places: 1 L justbert (Fr) ONCE 4fr., Infin 45ker; 2 A Zule (Swi) ONCE arms time; 3 M General (Swi) Pult + 15sec; 4 T Rottenger (Swi) Maper 38 + 25sec; 5 T Ostothing (Aut) Pulti same time; 3 M A Sentano (So) Kelmo-Ardech same time; 7 D Rebelle (ti) Pulti same time; 7 D Rebelle (ti) Pulti same time; 6 Faustin (di Akt-Giolemme + 31sec; 0 L Defaux (Swi) Lotus + 45sec; 10 D Caveto (So) MX Gnds - Europor + 1min 23sec, Owensil standings: 1 A Zule (Swi) ONCE + 5:13; 3 L Dufaux (Swi) Lotus + 5:24; 4 B Paustin (ti) Akt-Gipsemme + 6:26; 5 M Maun (Spi) ONCE + 6:51; 0 R Patore (ti) MG-Technogem + 6:54. Golf

Football
Reading's home game with Birmingham
city, scheduled for 1 October, has been
postponed because the visitors will have
three players, Barry Horne, Jason
Bowen and Andy Lagg, away on international duty with Wales. A new date
has yet to be arranged.
The World Cup qualifier between the former Balkan war enemies Bosnia and
Croatia has been moved forward a day
to 8 October. The Group One natch,
which will be played on the neutral
ground of Reneto dall'Ara Stadium in
Bologha, Italy, was brought forward to
avoid clashing with a Group Two qualritier between Italy and Georgia in Peruga.

August Starek, the former Austrian In-ternational, has been recalled to replace the disgraced Serbian Lubo Petrovic as coach of the First Division club Casino Graz. Petrovic resigned leat week after physically attacking one of his players in the dressing room. MAJOR LEAGUE SOCIER: Los Angeles Galany 2 Delbas Burn 1.

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TRANSFERS: Waryoe Burnott (midfielder)
Bolton to Huddersfeld; Gary Bidas (midfielder)
Wimbledon to Swindon; Sihaus Garnott (delender) Sauryoes to Ochran; Gary A Kelly
(gsalkesper) Bury to Oldnam; Gerard McMahon (forward) Tobranism to Stoke; Ian Ormandroyd forward) Begdford to Oldnam; Mack
Rendone (midfielder) Wolves to Prestor;
Parte Greates (tholkespec) Hallations in Chelsea: LOAN TRANSPERS: Wayne Bullimore (mid-fisider) Bradford to Doncaster; Jemie Core-tion (toward) Norwich to Bristol Rovers; Min Dean (toward) Huddersfield to Southborge; Jack Leater florwerd) Grimsty to Doncaster; Michael Medikather, (defended Permerconth

Chris Wilkinson, the top seed, will face Sweden's Federico Rovia, the draw's lest Sweden's Federico Rovia, the draw's lest remaining oversees player, in today's semi-final of the LTA Autumn Setellite tournament at the Whrat, 'testenday Wilkdnson was beat the 13-year-old Czech player Ota Fukanek 7-6, 6-1, in his quarter-final match. In the other semi-final, Hampshirt's Nick Weal, who had a bye through yesterday's quar-ter-final when Avon's Nick Gould with-draw before their match with a stomach.

England's Robert Lee goes into the fi-nal round of the Eulen Open Galea in Bilbao, Spain, today one shot behind the leader as he chaese his second Eu-ropean Chellenge Tour win of the se-son. Lee, from London, scored a third round of 71 for a five under par 211. total, the same as Jose Sota, a 23-year-old cousin of the Ryder Cup capain, Sev-eriano Ballesteros. They are one behind the leader, Stephen Scarhill, of Australia. BC OPEN (Gallectt, New York) (US urdeas the leader, Stephen Scarhill, of Australia. BC OPEN (Enalizett, New York) (US unleas stated): Leading final-round scores: 66 at Casr. 67 B Paon, J McGovern, W Len, Tibles, P Jorden, L Rinter, 68 G Watter (NZ), J Daley, T Woods, J Delsing, 2 Fleisher, P Burke, F Furk, T Tryla, J Hart, 69 M Standly, M Henren, J Stumen, K Gibson, J Edwertt, T Tyrer, J Magnines, S Dunlap, C Painy (Aud), M Hubert, J Sindeler, C Paubon, G Rusrek, Others 72 O Rintou (Aus), 73 J Sendelin (Swe), A Cejle (Ger), L Parsons (Aus), 79 D Watton (Zimi), 80 S Appleby (Aus), 21 D Watton (Bull, Company), 10 (Son); R Lee (Eig); J Quince (Sp.), 212 Fluston (Swe); Telut (Sg); A Standwell (Fig); I Moral (Sp); F Jacobsson (Swe); O Edmond (Tr); A Bringhi (O; N Kelouguine (Fr); A Hensen (Den).

draw before their metch with a stomach injury, meets Lincolnshire's Andrew Richardson. DAVIS CUP World Group qualitying round: (Tarrastons) Smaln 1 Descript Cr A Costs

(Sp) bt F Fetterien (Den) 6-0 6-0 6-2 (Woscom) Russia 2 Hungbry 0 (Rive manner first): Y Kutelnikov ht A Saucht 7-5 3-6 6-3 6-4; A Chesnolov bt 1 Krosto 6-2 6-2 6-2 (Praghan) Caseh Republic 0 Sevedes 1 (Swensmanner first): T Emplot bt P Kords 6-4 6-3 7-2 (Oltan, Swit) Switzeriend 2 Morracco 0 (Swift nesses first): I Hassik bt M Tahlif 0-6 6-3 6-2 7-5; M Russich bt M Tahlif 0-6 6-3 6-2 7-5; M Russich bt M Tahlif 0-6 6-3 (Hentes) Franco 0 tially 1-A Gauderz (D ht C Poline (P) 5-7 6-1 7-6 6-3 (Hentes) Russich 1 New Zeeland 1-1 Steinerick (Neth) bt 3 Steven (NZ 6-7 7-6 6-3 3-6 6-2; A Hunt (NZ) bt R Regionk (Neth) 7-6 3-8 4-6 4-1 (Vagicalt with-drew).

draw).

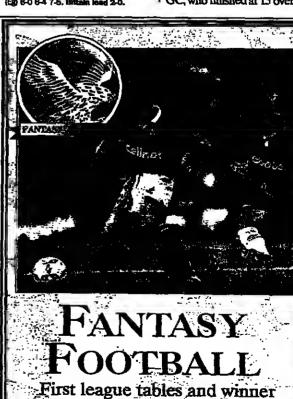
Euro-African Zone One play-off (Glev):
Uncains 2 Worway 0 (Uler names first): A
Medvedov br J Frod Anderson 6-2 6-2 6-0;
A Rybatho br C Rust 7-6 6-4 6-4.

MAUREEN CONNOLLY UNDER-21.
WOMEN'S TROPHY (sustin, Yessel; United States 1 Greet British 3 (Sib names
first): J Ward br C Creighton 4-5 6-4 6-0, M
Weinwight br E Schmidt 6-3 6-2, C Taylor los
to S Misbry 3-6 0-6, Taylor and L Jells br
Schmidt and S Suresphorg 3-6 8-2 14-12.
LIVA AUTILIBET DINE WITTER DOSEN. LTA AUTUMEN SATELLITE (Time Wirning) Quan-lan-Stonler C Wildmann (GB) bt 0 Fulcarek (Cz. Rep) 7-6 6-1; F Rowal (Swe) bt 1 K Koenig (Sh. 7-6 8-2; N Weel (GB) bt N Gould (GB) estioner; A Richardson (GB) bt J Fox (GB) 6-3 3-6 2.6

TODAY'S NUMBER

7,500 The crowd packed into the Sir

Ignatious Kilage Stadium in Lae, Papua New Guinea, who saw the home team score twice in the last three minutes to knock Vanuatu out of football's World Cub qualifying competition with a 2-1 win.

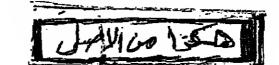


of Month 1 will be announced

on Wednesday 25 and Sunday

29 September.

THE INDEPENDENT % INDEPENDENT



The big picture The Abyss Sun 9pm C4

Director James Cameron is a master of ga-budget special effects movies look at The Terminator and Aliens. With The Abyss, he took on a new challenge: creating spectacular special effects underwater (a feat he hopes to repeat with a film version of the sinking of the Titanic). He largely succeeds in this eye-catching, if occasionally schmaltzy tate of a rescua team, headed by rugged Ed Harris, investigating an incapacitated military submarine. Not for nothing did the special effects walk away with Bri Oscar.

Television preview

RECOMMENDED VIEWING THIS WEEKEND by Gerard Gilbert

Fine Cut Sat 9pm BBC2 The Promised Land Sun 7.20pm BBC2 How to Be Prime Minister Sun 8.10pm BBC2 The Legacy of Reginald Perrin Sun 8.30pm BBC1 Erotic Tales Sun 11.35pm C4

revelation has been to How to Be Prime Minister (Sun BBC2), Michael Cockerell's guide to the top job, which might otherwise have been buried beneath quite a strong weekend of television. Joe Haines's disclosure that Wilson wanted Amin assay. sinated made most newspaper front pages in mid-week, and third item down on Wednesday's BBC Nine

O'Clock News. You can't buy pre-publicity like that. The rest holds little that is relevatory. Cockerell knows his parliamentary onions and has good access - but don't we all know that PMs are lonely in office, get little sleep and fall in love with the Queen (except Margaret Thatcher, of course)? Still, this is a jolly enough affair and contains nice little insider observations – such as how to "lurk" (hang round the PM in the hope of getting a quick word) and the existence of "old stripey", the blue and yellow dispatch box containing the juiclest security information.

Jim Callaghan was in power when the BBC first transmitted The Rise and Fall of Reginald Perrin, a

hat a godsend the Harold Wilson/Idi Amin Rossiter's anarchic comic genius. Today's middle at the birth and early strangulation of the democracy classes would probably give their collective right arms for the sort of routine, stress-free, job-for-life (with the little woman back home) culture against which Reggie Perrin rebelled. In hindsight, he can be seen as a proto-Thatcherite - riding roughshod over "soci-ety" and stultified British business practices.

The Legacy of Reginald Perrin (Sun BBC1), re-uniting most of the original cast, is not so much a comedy as a collection of eatchphrases – a liturgy for the sort of people who will be buying the accom-panying BBC book. So we get CJ saying "I didn't get front", and so on. Without Rossiter to bounce off there's precious little reason for this lot - except, of course, that writer David Nobbs has found one, and has them gathered for the reading of Reggie's will.

There are two very good documentaries this weekend. Richard Gordon and Carma Hinton's Fine Cut series which saw the full flowering of Leonard film The Gate of Heavenly Peace (Sat BBC2) looks

movement in China. Documenting the build-up to events in Tiananmen Square in 1989, they give a startling picture of the haphazard, opportunistic nature of revolution. The Promised Land (Sun BBC2) tells of the biggest peace-time exodus of Americans everthe movement of 5 million African Americans from the Deep South to the industrial cities of the north between 1940 and 1970. The first film, Any Place But Here, paints a distressing picture of the mixture of feudalism and apartheid (called "Jim Crow") that existed in Mississippi in the Twenties and Thirties.

Erotic Tales (Sim C4) is a new series of six dramas

trying to walk that fine line between pornography and erotica - if indeed one accepts such differentials. The series starts with Susan Seidelman's Oscar-nominated The Dutch Master, about a New York dental hygienist (the sweetly appealing Mira Sorvino - such subjective judgements are necessary in this field) who develops a strange fascination with a an old Dutch painting and the David Ginola lookalike at the centre of the canvas. Hey, it worked for me.



The big race Portuguese Grand Prix Sun 1.30pm, 9.50pm BBC2

THE INDEPENDENT - WEDNESDAY HISE TO

Damon Hill (above) won't thank us for saying this, but since his split from Williams was announced, interest in the Formula One world championship has really revved up. It has added spice to Bn already tense conclusion, as Hill seeks to clinch the drivers' title for the first time. In this penultimate race of the season in Estoril, Hill needs to finish ahead of his Williams team-mate Jacques Villeneuve to bag the title. He could also win it if the Canadian fails to gain a top three finish. Exciting stuff.

Saturday television and radio

BBC₁

7.00 Bay City (R) (S) (7928860).
7.25 News; Weather (2919150).
7.30 Children's BBC: The Morph Files. 7.40 Robinson Sucroe, 8.05 The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest. 8.30 The New Adventures of Superman. An old one, actually - the one where Lois has to respond to

9.15 Live and Kicking. (New Series) The electronic childminder returns with new presenters Zoë Ball and Jamie Theakston. This week's special guests are Boyzone (S) (81825792).

12, 12 Weather (7938112). 12.15 Grandstand. 12.20 Football Focus. 12.55 News. 1.00 Motor Racing: live coverage of the qualifying session for tomorrow's Portuguese Grand Prix from Estoril, 2.05 Racing from Newbury: the 2.10 Arlington Conditions Stakes, 2.15 Cricket Focus. 2.35 Racing from Newbury: the 2.40 Courage
Handicap Stakes. 2.50 International Golf: thirdround coverage from the inaugural Loch Lomond
World Invitational. 3.05 Racing from Newbury: the
3.10 Tote Autumn Cup. 3.20 Golf. 3.35 Racing from Newbury: the 3.40 Bonusprint Mill Reef Stakes, 3.45 Football Half-Times, 3.55 Golf. 4.45 Final Score (S) (77624570).

5.20 News; Weather (3214808). * 5.30 Regional News and Weather (557150). 5.35 Dad's Army (R) (565518). *

 6.05 Jim Davidson's Generation Game (5) (813044), *
 7.05 Due South. An assassin is threatening the lives of ministers at the North American Trade Summit (S) 7.50 The National Lottery Live. Phil Collins performs his

new single and gets the balls going (S) (164044). 8.05 Casualty. During a re-enactment of a Viking battle two neighbours come to real blows (S) (159599). 8.55 News and 5port; Weather (Followed by National

Lottery Update) (920957). * 9.15 FIEM Mercy Mission – the Rescue of Flight 771 (Roger Young 1993 U5). Bog-standard plane-in-peril thrills with Scott Bakula (from Quantum Leap) at the controls (862841).

10.45 Match of the Day. Liverpool v Chelsea at Anfield is the main event (S) (8956150). * 11.55 They Think It's All Over, Last Thursday's edition. Jimmy Fivebellies and comedian Alistair McGowan were the guests (S) (163599). *

12.25 Top of the Poos. With record companies allegedly complaining about Top of the Pops's switch from Thursdays to Fridays, is this late-night repeat part of a BBC emollient response? Anyhow, the Bluetones, Phil Collins, Deep Blue Someth Belinda Carlisle feature (R) (1508551).

1.00 ELM Asylum (Roy Ward Baker 1972 UK). Superior chiller (from a script by Psycho author Robert Bloch) In which four inmates in an Insane asylum tell their sorry tales. Starring Robert Powell, Peter Cushing, Herbert Lorn, Patrick Magee, Sylvia Syms, Britt Ekland (6273377). 2.25 Weather (5234483). To 2.30am.

BBC 2

6.00 Open University: The Management of Project Omnia (2093889). 6.25 The Fundamental Theorem of Algebra (2005624). 6.50 Environment (7849547). 7.15-0 pen Advice (7949353). 7.40 Quantum Leaps Into the Atom (9725792). 8.05 The Melbury Road Set (1055632). 8.30 Wrapping Up the Thernes (5910624). 9.20 The Sordid Subject of Boauf Bourguignon (8100745). 9.45 Lessons from Kerala (4949650). 10.10 A Little Film About Tivaevae (3353976). 10.35 Energy Through tha Window (1477841). 11.00 Ouverture: Plus Ça Change (5234266). 11.25 Norfolk Broads: Conservation v Commercialism (2412268). 11.50

Seeing with Electrons (5150228). 12.15 Film 96 with Barry Norman (S) (448605). * 12.45 Suspicion (Alfred Hitchcock 1941 US). Heiress Joan Fontaine marries roguish fortunehunter Cary Grant, but increasingly comes to suspect him of plotting to murder her. The first of two early-period American Hitchcock movies this afternoon is his flawed but well-cast thriller co-

starring Cedric Hardwicke, Nigel Bruce and a highly unconvincing studio England (41 63 6808). *

2.20 Foreign Correspondent (Alfred Hitchcock 1940 US). The second Hitchcock movie of the fifternoon is generally superior – a cracking spy thriller set on the eve of the Second World War (and exhorting Americans to wake up to the Nazi menace), Bags of classic scenes - including the Dutch windmill going against the wind. Joel McCrea is the jaunty U5 reporter hero – little Laraine Day the romantic interest (784650).

4.15 TOTP2. This week's show celebrates the 1,700th edition of Top of the Pops by playing the Number One hits from landmark shows (S) (1164841). 5.00 Rhodes 1/8. Second sitting for the opening episode of this epic debunking of the great empire-builder. Martin 5haw plays Rhodes the elder, while his son,

Joe Shaw, plays the young Cecil (S) (81792). *
6.30 Leeds International Piano Competition (With Radio 3) Last right, the first three finalists each played a piano concerto; tonight, the remaining three perform with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. The winner is decided by an International Jury (Subsequent programmes may run late) (387334).

9.00 Fine Cut: See Preview (S) (49275131).

11.05 Leeds International Piano Competition. The Jury announces the official result and Howard Goodall reveals the viewers' choice (S) (856537). Top of the Pops Weekend, To celebrate Ch

10th anniversary, a special concert from Wembley Arena featuring 5leeper, Kula Shaker, Terrorvision, Cast, Ocean Colour Scene and Bjork (703421). * 12.25 International Golf Highlights of the second day's play in the Solheim Cup from St Pierre, Chepsto (Followed by Weatherview) (8203648), To 1,20am. REGIONS. Wales: 2.20pm Plaid Cymru Conference. NI: No Variations.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV 6.00 Mole in the Hole, 6.20 Professor Bubble, 6.40 Bug Alerti 7.00 News. 7.10 Disney's Wake Up in the Wild Room, 8.20 Gargoyles, 8.55 Masked Rider (9888711).

9.25 Wow. The live show for Saturdays with Simeon Courtle and Sophie Aldred. Sally Gunnell and the cast of Hollyoaks are the guests (S) (16036155). 11.00 The Noise. And! Peters introduces the music magazine, Including a chat with Sting and Superman actor Dean Cain (S) (4421). 11.30 The Chart Show (S) (10063).

12.30 Move On Up (58570).

1.00 News & Weather (76254131). *
1.00 News & Weather (76254131). *
1.05 Local News, Weather (76253402). *
1.10 Champions League Special. Jim Rosenthal previews this week's games, including Manchester United's encounter with Rapid Vienna (3207565). 1.45 Movies, Games and Videos (430686).

2.15 Baywatch, 5ummer and Stephanie are taken hostage in a lifeguard tower by an escaped psychopath. You've got to cheer (R) (7469841). * 3.05 Airwolf. The little helicopter is sent to help free the

victims of a kidnapping (R) (5091421).
3.55 Thunder in Paradise (S) (6847334).
4.45 News; Sports Results; Weather (7844599). 5.05 London Tonight; Sports Results (Followed by LWT Weather) (8992082). *

5.25 Cartoon Time (3208247).

5.35 RoboCop (S) (762711). 6.30 Body Heat. The grand final from South Africa. The three couples who have won through face a 2km uphill road race, before linking up with the South African Navy in a marine attack exercise and undergoing a power test set by the manager of the champion South African rugby team. Enough, surely, to satisfy armchair sadists (S) (312150). *
7.15 The Big, Big Talent Show (Including Lottery

Result) (S) (775482). 8.15 Family Fortunes (S) (989537). *

8.45 News; Weather: Lottery Result (Followed by LWT Weather) (935889). * 9.00 A Right Royal Song and Dance, Clips from 40 years of the Royal Variety Show (S) (9228). *
10.00 The Big, Big Talent Show: Results, Jonathan Ross

announces the winner of tonight's final (995204). 10.15 FIRM Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome (George Miller, George Ogilvie 1985 US). More post-apocalyptic mayhem with Mel Gibson, The series was getting a bit above itself by the time Tina Turner joined for this, the second sequel (206421).

12.15 Funny Business (S) (59087). 12.45 ERM BL 5tryker - Grand The Warmby 1990 U5). Starring Burt Reynolds, Loni Anderson and Rita Moreno (S) (145648).

2.25 The Chart Show (R) (S) (9078209). 3.15 El News Review (6530174). 4.05 Night Shift (57920071). 4.10 God's Gift (R) (6589261). 5.05 Coach (R) (S) (9566025).

Channel 4

6.00 Sesame Street (R) (3359518). 6.55 The Magic School 8us (R) (S) (4385228). 7.30 Dennis (7713082).

7.45 First Edition (7718537) 8.00 Transworld Sport (67112).

9.00 The Morning Line. Today's horse-racing previewed (S) (92711).

10.00 Gazzetta Football Italia (79773). 11.00 Blitzi Including highlights of the Monday night game between Pittsburgh Steelers and Buffalo Bills (99537).

12.00 Rawhide (75247).

1.00 End Up In Arms (Elliott Nugent 1944 U5). Some of the songs bear up better than the story about a hypochondriac called up into the US Army during tha Second World War. This was Danny Kaye's first movie vehicle, and it co-starred Dinah 5hore and

Dana Andrews (68816150). * 2.55 Racing from Ayr and the Curragh, 3.05 (A)
Ladbroke Silver Cup Handicap; 3.35 (A) Stakis
Casinos Doonside Cup; 3.50 (C) Jefferson Smurfit Memorial Irish St Leger; 4.15 (A) Ladbroke Gold
Cup Handicap; 4.25 (C) Aga Khan's Studs
National Stakes; 4.45 (A) Johnnie Walker Whlsky
Handicap (S) (29861599),
5.05 Brookside Omnibus (R) (S) (4393044), *

6.30 Right to Reply (S) (315). 7.00 News Summary and Weather (828570). 7.05 The People's Parliament. Today's motion is "Parents are responsible for their children's behaviour at school and should be fined if they

persistently disrupt classes" (5) (121995). *
8.00 Carlo Scarpa. Profile of the Italian post-war architect whose work uniquely juxtaposed the ancient with the modern (6614). * 9.00 E.R. Lewis is formally charged with negligence (R) (S) (275082). *

9.55 Father Ted. Ted decides that he and Dougal will "borrow" a tune from an old Eurosong hopeful and enter it as their own (R) (S) (543745). * 10.25 NYPD Blue, The Jury reaches a verdict in the

Licalsi case (R) (S) (955537). 11.25 Dyke TV: The A to Z of Dating. Julie Hesmondhalgh takes us on a fast-paced journey

through the world of lesbian classified ads (S) 11.50 Mad About the Boy. A range of lesbians reveal which men inspire them and why (S) (230660).

12.05 A Weekend at Miss Martindale's (S) (6599280). 12.40 Bar Girls (Marita Giovanni 1994 US). Allison Wolfe) and her lesbian barfly buddies enjoy a roller-coaster ride of romance, lust and

miscommunication (5) (884025). 2.30 Techno Babes. The lesbian club scene. Followed

by Dyke Blend. (7492006). 2.45 Rea Mata Hari (George Fitzmaurice 1931 U.5). With Greta Garbo, Lionel Barrymore and Ramon Novarro (126280). To 4.20am.

ITV/Regions

ANGUA As London except: 12.30pm Champions of the Future (58570): 1.40 Movies, Garnes and Videos (64595529): 2.10 Surfuresians (7460570): 3.00 Airwolf (5092150): 3.50 Baywolch (5011179): 5.20 Canton (7649570): 5.35 seafurest 2032 (762711): 12.15am Films Nine Destre of the Ninja (543006): 1.55am Carnel Knowledge (5909193): 2.50 Films St. Martin's Lans (6847261): 4.10am Helter Steller (2433613): 5.00-5.30am World of Selling (37355).

CSUDBIFL S WORTH ENST/TORKSHIPE As London except: 12.30pm Moxies, Games and Videos (\$8570). 1.40 Film: That Dam Catt (60906995). 3.50 Ahwolf (6011179), 5.10 Chennel 3 North East Full Time (7669334). Varia: Scareline (7669334). 5.20 Carbon Time (7649570). 5.35 seaQuest 2032 (762711). 12.15 ReboCop (8210938). 1.05am Futny Busines (531.7280). 1.35am War and Re-membrane (535.280). 3.30am Late & Loud (501.3777). 4.20am Muder, She Wide (2535025). 5.10-5.30am Sound Blas

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CRITIAL
As Landon except: 12.30pm Premiere I58570), 1.10 Sport
Cassics (17918686), 1.25 Champions League (69982773),
1.55 Warted Dead or Alive (68395782), 2.25 Movies, Games
and Videos (97641353), 2.55 Knight Rider (5637711), 3.50
RoboCop (6011179), 5.10 Central Match (7669334), 5.20

Carecon (7649570), 5.35 seaQuest 2032 (7627) 11.4.15am Jobinder (7358919), 5.20-5.30am Asian Sys (9513700). HIV
As London except: 12.30pm West No Naked Flames
(59570; Wales California of Beat (85327042), 12.45 Wales
Rugby 2000 (80377547), 1.40 Movies, Garnes and Videos
(84595529), 2.10 Films The Interchible Hulk Returns (852860),
3.50 Baywathth (6848063), 4.40 West, Sport Classion
(402391 II; Wales, Leb's Go (4023911), 5.20 Carthorn Time
(7649870), 5.35 septient 2032 (765711), 12.15 ton Films (7649570), 5.35 sepQuest 2032 (762711), 12.15am Film Ning Dealts of the Ninia (\$4300\$). L.Stam Carnal Knowledge (9903193). 2.50cm Films St Martin's Lane (6847261). 4.10cm Helter Steller (2433613). 5.00-5.30cm Sailing (37358).

nesuum As London entept: 12.30pm Movies, Garnes and Videos (58570). 1.40 A/06 (8/595529). 2.10 Solling (983368/1), 2.40 Car-loons (5335334). 2.50 Almodi (2499353), 3.50 Baywatch (6011179). 5.20 Warner Cartoon (7649570), 5.35 sesQue-(60/11/19), 5-20 Varies Griton (70-6570), 5-35 Sesales 51 2032 (762711), 12,15 am Film: Nine Deaths of the Ninja 65-3006), 1,55 am Carrol Knowledge (9909 193), 2,50 am Film: St Martin's Lane (6847261), 41,0 am Heller Steller (2433613), 5.00-5.30 am Freesceen (37358).

As London escept: 12.30pm Modes, Gürres and Videos (5857C). 1.40 Film: Macand Me (31509570). 3.35 Carbon (6920976). 3.50 Baywatch (6011179), 5.20 Cartoon (7649570), 5.35 3.50 Isalvacon (B011179), 5.20 Carmon (7449574), 5.35 essQuest 2032 (762711). 12,15em Film: Nine Deaths of the Ninja (543005). 1,55em Carnal Knowledge: (9809.193). 2,50em Film: St Martin's Lane (6847261). 4,10em Helter, Steller (2433613), 5,00-5,30em World of Salling (37358).

Bus (4385228), 10,000 Orthodold Paid (65860), 12,00 Avenue (75247). 1.00 Blaz! (84995). 2.00 Rawhide (2885179). 2.55 Parine: (29867599), 630 Box Meets World (375), 700 Neweldian Nos (47786Q), 7.15 Noson Lawes (7316353), 8.20 Hel Straeon 889 (983266), 8.50 Sice Fach (693518), 9.35 Mur-Seeple doo 1963,000, 630 300 7801 1950320, 9535 NM-der in the Heritland (866939), 11.20 Caltin (160402), 11.50 Nad About the Boy (230860, 12.05em A Weelend (5599260, 12.40em Film: Ber Girls (1994) (884025), 230em Techno Babes (7492005), 2.45-4.20em Film: Mala Harl (1932) (126280),

Radio

Radio 1

(97.6-99 8MHz FM) 197,595 datu ray
7,00am Charlie Jordan 10.00
Dave Pearce 12.30 Danny Bake
2.30 Jo Whiley 5.00 PJ Harvey
at Peel Acres See Choice, right 7.00 Lovegroove Oance Party with Danny Rampling 9.00 Radio 1 Rap 5how 12.00 The Radio 1 ggae Dancehall Nite 2.00 Es-tual Mix: Pete Tong in Ibiza 4.00-7.00am Claire Sturgess

(88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00am Mo Dutta 8.05 Brian Matthew 10.00 Steve Wright's Saturday 1.00 Talking Comedy 1.30 News Huddlines 2.00 Judi Spiers 4.00 Nick Barraclough 5.00 Who's Who? 6.00 Janis Ian In Concert 7.00 Vaudeville Red Hot and Blue 7.30 John William Conducts the LSO 9.30 David Jacobs 10.00 Sheridan Morley 12.05 Charles Nove 4.00-6.00am Mo Dutta

Radio 3

190.2-92 4MR: FUN 7.00am Record Review. 9.00 Building a Library. Richard Osborne compares available recordings of Strauss' Don

10.15 Record Release, Hasse

Salve regin . Bach; Cantata No 106: Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit. Clerambautt: Le soleil, vainqueur des nuages. 11.15 Reissues. David Huckvale considers recent relss original soundtracks including the complete soundtracks of Hermann's North by North-west and Miklos Rosza's Ben

12,00 Private Passions. Michael Berkeley talks to writer and broadcaster Nigel Rees. 1.00 News; Simon Rattle - Home and Away. The Early Years. Michael Birkett profiles conductor Simon Rattle.

B!rmIngham v Cardiff. 3.30 Youth Orchestras of the World. Oavid McGuinness presents a programme from the 1996 Aberdeen International

Youth Festival. 5.00 Jazz Record Requests. With Geoffrey Smith.
5.45 Music Matters.
6.30 Leeds International Piano Competition. Part 2. Howard Goodall introduces perfor-mances by the last three linalists at Leeds Town Hall. 9.00 Best Words. Michael Rosen

Choice

talks to Brian Patten. 9.30 Contemporary Music En-semble of Wales. 10.45 Mike Westbrook, Alyn Shipton introduces the first performance of the Radio 3 Helen Simpson.

1.00 Through the Night. 1.01 Oistrakh and Brahms. 2.30 Plano Recital.
3.30 Calebrity Orchestral Concert
5.00 Sequence.
5.55-7.00am Open University. Maths: Exam Revision. 6.15 Climate Change Update. 6.35 Arts Foundation Course.

Radio 4

and Anna Ford. B.5B Weather. 9.05 Sport on 4.

10.00 News; Loose Ends.
11.00 News; Agenda. Verdicts from the Streets. Kirsty Miline examines whether juries are really a reconstruction. ally a representation of society, or just a gimmick.

12.00 Money Box. Allson Mitchell presents. 12.25 News Quiz. A satincal look back at some recent headline stories. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 News.
1.10 Any Questions?
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News: Any Answers?
2.30 Saturday Playhouse: Merad-

ith. Peter Roberts' drama tells the true story of Billy Meredith,

finds John Peel entertaining Polly Jean, the pop tragedienne (left), and her band at Peel's country residence in Suffolk, where they engage in some desultory chat about rural life and she sings some of her Brty, wailing songs. Really quite odd.

Sional game.

commission Bar Utopia by Mike Westbrook, with a text by

624.94.682.68; 19882.190
6.00am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.50 Prayer for the Day.
6.55 Weather.
7.00 Today. With John Humphrys.

9.30 Breakaway. Anne Gregg pre-sents the latest holiday and travel news.

11.30 From Our Own Correspon-

PI Barvey at Peel Acres (5pm R1) Lean about film techniques the Rollarcoaster, Roy Hatters ley offers a vivd first-hand account of the last Labour

a sporting genius who wanted nothing to do with the profes-

4.00 News; That's History. Gerry Northam visits Uppark, rav-aged by fire in 1989, to report on how the 20 million pounds of restoration money has been

.30 Science Now. 5.00 File on 4. Mark Whitaker assesses the influence of lob-byists in American politics.
5.40 A Short History of the Lettuce. Sue Dyson traces the Instern

tory of dietary advice and uncovers some tips on how to avoid exploding. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather, 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 5.25 Week Ending. Topical comedy sketch show.
 5.50 Offspring. Escape from Alcatraz. Sally looks forward to leaving her rural home for the bright lights.
 7.20 Kaleidoscope Feature. Fa-

ther and-son actors Timothy and Sam West talk to theatre critic Michael Billington about the challenge of sharing the

stage.
7.50 On These Days.
8.50 Saturday Night Theatre: His
Last Bow. The services of a
certain bee-keeper are called
upon as his country faces her
darkest hour. With Clive Merrison and Michael Williams.
2.5 Clearing with King Rajan Kay. son and Micrael willarts.

3.35 Classics with Kay Brian Kay
goes on the march with
Sibellus, Shostakovich and
Laurence Perkins.

9.50 Ten to Ken.

10.00 News. 10.15 Without the Sustaining World. Psychological drama by Sarah Woods in which Alison, overwhelmed by everyday life, retreats into a private fantasy world. 11,15 The British Film Studios. The Independents, John Hunt-ley meets Bernard Vorhaus, the

Satellite legendary director at Twicken-ham Studios In the 30s and the man who taught David

government.
12.00 News.
12.30 Late Story: Tom. By Henrietts Branford.
12.48 Shipping Forecast.

Radio 5

ISS3 SCENIT WIN 6.05am Oirty Tackle 6.30 Brian Hayes at Breakfast 9.05 Weekend rayes at Breakast 9.00 Weesen with Kershaw and Whittaker 11.05 Top Gear 11.35 If I Ruled the World 12.00 Midday Edition 12.15 Sportscall 1.05 Sport on Five 6.06 Six-0-Six 8.05 The Treatment 9.05 Dallyn UK 10.05 Brief Lives 10.35 Word Up! 11.00 Night Extra 12.05 Night Talk 2.05 Up All Night 5.00-6.00am Morning Reports

Classic FM GEO-10154Wk RN 6.00am Sarah Lucas. 9.00 Classic Countdown. 12.00 Classic Gardening Forum. 1.00 Alan Mann. 3.00 Nick Bailey. 7.00 Music of the Americas. 8.00 Sat-

music of the America's 8.00 s.
unday Evening Concert. Berkeley/Britten: Mont Juic Suite of
Catalam Dances. Hoist: A Fugal
Concerto; Choral Fantasia; Concerto for two Violins and Small Orchestra. Vaughan Williams: A London Symphony. 10.00 The Classie Quiz. 12.00 Andre Leon. 4.00 Travel Guide. 5.00-5.00am Virgin Radio 1025, 197-1220c to 105.50c; 701 6.00am Janey Lee Grace 8.00 Russ & Jono's Greatest Hits 10.00 Richard Skinner 2.00

Mark Forrest (including Cadbury's Crunchie Album Chart 6.00 Lynn Parsons 10.00 Robin Banks 2.00 -6.00am Howard Pearce **World Service**

(1984位 136) (1984b) 100 am Newsdesk 1.30 Letter from America 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 Newsday 3.30 Music Review 4.00 World News 4.16 Sports 4.30 Fourth Estate 4.45 Write On 4.55 Pop Short 5.00 Newsdesk 5.30 Short Stone 5.00 Newsdesk 5.30 Short Story 5.45-6.00am On the Move

5.30 News (55667). To 6.00am.

SN1 1
7.00am Undun (3964605), 12.00
WWF (20711), 1.00 Hit Mix (21501),
2.00 Hercules (19222), 3.00 Hawkeye
(39995), 4.00 Kung Fu (18402), 5.00
Young Indiana Jones (8421), 6.00
WWF (26995), 7.00 Hercules (69624),
8.00 Unsolved Mysteries (450-44), 9.00
Cops (14686), 9.30 Cop Ries (98112),
10.00 Stand and Deliver (82063),
10.30 Revelations (91711), 11.00
Movie Show (19131), 11.30 Forever
Knight (33266), 12.30 Dream On
(41990), 1.00 Cornedy Rules (54648),
1.30 Rachel Gunn, RN (94754), 2.007.00am Hit Mix (33629).

7.00pm Earth 2 (4090711): 8.00 Jag (4076131): 9.00 Kindred: The Em-bracest (4096995): 10.00 Tales from the Crypt (6085605): 10.30 Tales from the Crypt (6094353): 11.00 The HR Mat (7-182501): 12.00-6.00am Hit Max (3800272)

SXY MONES
6.15am To Trap a Spy (1966)
(16582841). 8.00 The Spy in the Green Hat (1966) (9833-1), 10.00 Kaleidoscope (1966) (12792). 12.00 Mountain Family Robinson (1979) (88957). 2.00 Dragonworld (1993) (3353). 6.00 Josh and S.A.M. (1993) (62711). 8.00 Blue Sky (1994) (41229). 10.00 Gurmen (1994) (296792). 11.35 Night Eyes 3 (1993) (785-21). 1.35 Night Eyes 3 (1993) (785-21). 1.20 The Vegrant (1992) (5214464). 2.50 Separated by Munder (1994) (763735). 4.25-6.00am Dragonworld (1993) (810434). SET MOVIES

MOVIE CHANNEL 6.00am Lilian Russell (1940) 6.00m Lilisan Russel (1940) (41695860). 8.10 Moontest (1984) (29555179). 10.00 Oliver Twist (1987) (70334). 12.00 Say One for Me (1959) (86599). 2.00 To See Such Fun (1977) (57899). 4.00 Takeas (1993) (1995). 6.00 Official Denial (1993) (60353). 8.00 Without Warning (1994) (32570). 10.00 The River Wild (1994) (728792). 11.55 Heaven & Earth 1993) (6572922). 2.15 To Phys.

(128792). 11.55 Heaven & Earth (1993) (95729334). 2.15 The River Wild (1994) (344984). 4.10-6.00em To See Such Fun (1977) (713551). 2KA WOMEZ COITD 98' MOVES GOLD 1925:291, 2.00 The Party (1968) (28315), 4.00 Seven Days in May (1964) (9957), 6.00 The Buddy Sys-tem (1984) (48179), 8.00 No Way Out (1987) (43624), 10.00 Casualties of War (1989) (15082), 12.00 10 Rilling-ton Place (1971) (911483), 1.55 The Last American Hero (1973) (256342), 3.30-5.10ath Country Girl (1954) (260919).

7.00am Give Us A Clue (4630995). 7.30 Going for Gold (8075995). 7.55 Sullivans (81725860). 10.00 Neigh-

UK COLD

③ **43** ⊗ ●

bours (5531082), 12.00 EastEnders (78381518), 2.55 Minder (73716334), 4.00 Robin's Nest (73/16334), 4,00 moons nest (2565518), 4,30 smyl (2750709), 5.15 A Team (5883976), 6.15 Bullseye (7406112), 6.45 some Mothes Do Nev Em (3887315), 7.25 Likely Lads? (5917353), 8.05 Shoesting (68476957), 9.10 Kojak (7713889), 10.10 Celling (652662)), 11.15 Med. (00470597), 9-10 Nojak (7/13003), 10,10 Callan (96280501), 11.15 Mia-mi Vice (4988537), 12.15 Rwon Bites (1955464), 12.45 Lethal Error (1991) (1285629), 2.20-7.00am Shopping

7.00am Sports Special (67976). 7.30 American Sports (65911). 8.30 Racing (84179). 9.00 Women's Golf (3640711). 1.00 Rugby (87191). 2.00 Firitish Line (1150). 2.30 Women's Golf (2107599), 6.30 ke Hockey (538266) 9.30 Speedway (541632), 12.00 Ten-nis (76445), 1.30-4.30am ke Hockey

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Soccer AM (2860402). 11.00 Back Page (41.9062). 12.00 Football Preview (4480266). 2.00 Rugby Union (8891860). 4.00 Results (5191063). 5-30 Australian Football (\$1.88578), 7-30 Spanish Football (\$0.32334), 9-30 Rugby Union (321.2334), 10-30 Sport Special (2797841), 11-00 Game of 5il-lions (41.38247), 12.00-1.00am British Open 1978 (8694532).

Elitosport
7.30am Formula 1 (33537), 8.30 Water Sking (79247), 9.00 Formula 1 (9064082), 9.45 Formula 1 (359247), 10.15 Formula 1 (359247), 10.15 Formula 1 (3278131), 11.00 Raily (67792), 11.30 Formula 1 (98780-44), 12.15 Formula 1 (98780-44), 12.15 Formula 1 (97119), 2.00 Motorcycling (3518), 2.30 Cycling (81-02), 3.30 Motorcycling (4112), 4.00 Gaif (6841), 6.00 Motorcycling (19353), 7.00 Formula 1 (85686), 8.00 Tractor Pulling (94334), 9.00 Formula 1 (74570), 10.00 Boorng (84957), 11.00 Motorcycling (59773), 11.30 Formula 1 (64150), 12.30-1.00am Cycling (89174), 18E fv.

LWETV
6.00am Revelations 6.30 Looking for Love 7.00 Spanish Archer 7.30 Mind & Body 8.00 Why Files 8.30 Video Box 9.00 Fate & Fortune 9.30 Fashon 10.00 Revelators 10.30 Looking for Love 11.00 Mind & Body 11.30 Spanish Archer 12.00 Canary Wharl 1.30 Fate & Fortune 2.00 Fashion 2.30 Mind & Body 3.00 Chequiered Figg 3.30 Pin Money 4.00 Eric's Monster Show 5.30 Missing 6.00 Looking for Love 6.30 Eric's Monster Show 7.00 Spanish Archer 7.30 Revelations 8.00 Fate & Fortune 8.30 Missing 9.03 Why Files 9.30 Looking for Love 10.03 Eric's Monster Show 10.30 Stand Up 11.00 Topless Darts 11.30 Fate & Fortune 12.00-6.00am Night-Time Programmes

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Of holy men and earthly desire

the town of Gafsa, in Barbary, a very rich man who had numerous children, among them a lovely and graceful young daughter called Alibech. She was not herself a Christian, hut there were many Christians in the town, and one day, having on occasion heard them extol the Christian faith and the service of God, she asked one of them for his opinion on the best and easiest way for a person to "serve God", as they put it. He answered her by saying that the ones who served God best were those who put the greatest distance between themselves and earthly goods, as happened in the case of people

Boccaccio

Priests and

the flesh is

succumbing to temptations of

surprising only in that we are still surprised. This tale from

dates from the

14th century

bishops

She said no more about it to anyone, but next morning, being a very simple-natured creature of 14 or thereabouts, Alibech set out all alone, in secret, and made her way toward the desert. A few days later, exhausted from fatigue and hunger, she arrived in the heart of the wilderness, where, catching sight of a small hut in the distance, she stumbled towards it, and in

man, who was astonished to see her in those parts and asked her

what she was doing there.

She told him that she had been inspired by God, and that she was trying not only to serve Him hut also to find someone who could teach her how she should go about it.

On observing how young and exceedingly pretty she was, the good man was afraid to take her under his wing lest the devil should catch him unawares. So he praised her for her good mtentions, and having given her a quantity of herb roots, wild apples and dates to eat, and some water to drink, he said to

who had gone to live in the from here is a holy man who is much more capable than I of teaching you what you want to know." And he sent her upon

ond man, she was told precisely the same thing, and so she went on until she arrived at the cell of a young hermit, a very devont and kindly fellow called Rustico, to whom she put the same inquiry. Being anxious to prove to himself that he possessed a

the doorway she found a holy will of iron, he did not, like the others, send her away or direct her elsewhere, but kept her with him in his cell, in a corner of which, when night descended, he prepared a makeshift bed out of palm-leaves, upon which he invited her to lie down and rest.

Once he had taken this step,

very little time elapsed before

temptations went to war against his willpower, and after the first few assaults, finding himself outmanoeuvred on all fronts, he laid down his arms and surrendered. Casting aside pious thoughts, prayers, and peniten-tial exercises, he began to concentrate his mental faculties upon the youth and beauty of the girl, and to devise suitable "My daughter, nol very far ways and means for approaching her in such a fashion that she ould not think it lewd of him to make the sort of proposal he had in mind. He thought of a possible way to persuade her. with the pretext of serving God, to grant his desires. He began by delivering a long speech in which he showed her how powerful an enemy the devil was to the Lord God, and followed this up by impressing upon her that of all the ways of serving God,

the one that He most appreci-

ated consisted of putting the devil back in hell.

The girl asked him how this was done, and Rustico replied:
You will soon find out, but just do whatever you see me doing for the present." And so saying, he began to divest himself of the few clothes he was wearing, leaving himself completely naked. The girl followed his example, and he sank to his knees as though he were about to pray, getting her to kneel directly opposite.

n this posture, the girl's beauty was displayed to Rustico in all its glory, and his longings blazed more fiercely than ever, bring-ing about the resurrection of the flesh. Alibech stared at this in what is that thing I see sticking out in front of you, which I do not possess?"

"Oh, my daughter," said Rustico, "this is the devil I was telling you about. Do you see what he's doing? He's hurting me so much that I can hardly

"Oh, praise be to God," said the girl. "I can see that I am better off than you are, for f have no such devil to contend with." "You're right there," said Rustico, "hut you have some-thing else instead that I haven't." "Oh?" said Alibech. "And

what's that?" "You have hell," said Rustico.
"And I honestly believe that God has sent you here for the salvation of my soul, because if

life out of me, and if you are pre-pared to take sufficient pity upon me to let me put him back into hell, you will be giving me marvellous relief, as well as ren-dering incalculable service and

pleasure to God,"
"Oh, Fathier," replied the girl.
"If I really do have a hell, let's
do as you suggest just as soon as
you are ready."
At this point, he conveyed the

girl to one of their beds, where he instructed her in the art of incarcerating that accused fiend. Never having put a single devil into bell before, the girl found the first experience a little painful, and she said to Rustico: This devil must certainly be a bad lot, Father, and a true enemy of God, for as well as plaguing mankind, he even hurts hell when he's driven back inside it."

"Daughter," said Rustico, "it will not always be like that." And to ensure that it wouldn't, they put him back half a dozen times, curbing his arrogance to such good effect that he was positively glad to keep still for the rest of the day.

During the next few days,

however, the devil's pride frequently reared its head again. and the girl, ever ready to obey the call to duty and bring him under control, happened to develop a taste for the sport, and began saying to Rustico: "I can certainly see what those worthy men in Gafsa meant when they said that serving God was so agreeable. I don't honestly recall ever having done anything that gave me so much pleasure and satisfaction as I get from putting

the devil back in hell. To my way of thinking, anyone who devotes his energies to anything but the service of God is a complete hlockhead.

She thus developed the habit of going to Rustico at frequent intervals, and saying to him: "Father, f came here to serve

And sometimes, in the middle of their labours, she would say: "What puzzles me, Rustico. is that the devil should ever want to escape from hell. Because if he liked being there as much as hell enjoys receiving him and keeping him inside, he would never go away at all." By inviting Rustico to play the

game too often, continually arging him on in the service of God. the girl took so much stuffing out of him that he eventually hegan to turn cold where another man would have been bathed in sweat. So be told her that the devil should only be punished and put back in hell when he reared his head with pride, adding that by the grace of Heaven, they had tamed him so effectively that he was pleading with God to be left in peace. In this way, he managed to keep the girl quiet for a while, bul one day, having begun to notice that Rustico was no longer asking for the devil to be put back, she said: "Look here, Rustico. Even though your devil has been punished and pesters you no longer, my hell simply refuses to leave me alone. Now that I have helped you with my hell to sub-

due the pride of your devil, the least you can do is to get your devil to help me tame the fury of my hell. Rustico, who was living on a diet of herb roots and water, was

quite incapable of supplying her requirement, and told her that the taming of her hell would God, not to idle away my time.

Let's go and put the devil back promised to do what he could. Sometimes, therefore, he responded to the call, but this happened so infrequently that it was rather like chucking a bean into the mouth of a lion, with the result that the girl, who felt thal she was not serving God as diligently as she would have liked, was found complaining more

> ut at the height of Alibech's hell and Rustico's devil. hrought about by a surplus of desire on the one hand and a shortage of power on the other, a fire broke out in Gafsa, and Alibech's father was burnl to death in his own house along with all his children, so that Alibech inherited the whole of his property. Because of this, a young man called Neerbal who had spent the whole of his substance in sumptuous living, having heard that she was still alive. set out to look for her, and before the authorities were able to appropriate her late father's fortune on the grounds that there was no heir, he succeeded in tracing her whereabouts. To the great relief to Rustico, but against her own wishes, he took

her back to Gafsa and married her, thus inheriting a half-share in her father's large fortune. Before Neerbal had slept with

her, she was questioned by the women of Gafsa about how she had served God in the desert, and she replied that she had served Him by putting the devil hack in hell, and that Neerbal had committed a terrible sin by stopping her from performing so worthy a service.

"How do you put the devil back in hell?" asked the women. Partly in words and partly through gestures, the girl showed them how it was done, whereupon the women laughed so much that they are laughing yet, and they said: "Don't let it worry you, my dear. People do the job every bit as well here in Galsa, and Neerbal will give you

plenty of help serving the Lord. The story was repeated throughout the town, being passed from one woman to the next, and they coined a proverhial saying there to the effect that the most agreeable way of serving God was to put the devil back in hell. The dictum later crossed the sea to Italy, where

it survives to this day.

And so, young ladies, if you stand in need of God's grace, see that you learn to put the devil back in hell, for it is greatly to His liking and pleasurable to the parties concerned, and a great deal of good can arise and flow

Extracted from Ten Tales from the Decameron', translated by GH McWilliam. Penguin 60s Classics.



jo brand's week

l stopped going to the cinema some time ago because lighting up a fag was outlawed in most London venues. There are still one or two places you can light up, like the pictures at the Elephant and Castle in south London. However, having sat through Reservoir ago and suffered the bloodcurding cackles of three south London girls during the ear-removing scene, I decided not to risk it again. A survey on cinema complaints has found that it is mobile phones and chatting that winds people up the most, along with go walking to their scats just as Demi Moore or whoever is about to get her kit off. Perhaps as we get more selfish we just have to admit that we can't all sit together in one place and get on with one another. Of course, encouragement to respect our fellow man is not helped by the fact that half the time we're watching a Hollywood film with some poor woman having her liver removed or men's stomachs exploding with a bit of help from a sawn-off.

Romanian coalminers are a scary bunch of people who seem prepared to kick

people's heads in at the drop of a hat. They turn np in to sort out trouble and then disappear back to the mines until another violent intervention is required by their political leaders. However, things look as if they are getting somewhat confused for the miners, because their union leader, Miron Cozma, has decided to do away with his loyalty to the president, Ion Iliescu, and stand in the next election as an independent. One wonders whether he will call npon this mob to persuade the voters by saying it with baseball bats, or whether they will stay at home and actually do mining. Still, one also wonders what might have happened if we'd swapped them with our miners during the Thatcher union cull.

Yet again this year I ficetingly considered doing the evening-class thing, if only to stop my brain rotting away on a diet of crap telly and pappy radio. I fancied a course called "Latin - Rusty O-level (not the name of the lecturer, I don't think), as I used to enjoy Caesar's Gallic wars and all that mounting of the ramparts and sending

dispatches to Cicero. It seems though, that for most evening-class students mounting is more in their sights than tearning. Single people are often told by agony aunts to go to evening classes, as if a constant supply of eligible partners await them. Wett, I have never met anyone who encountered and wooed the love of their tife at evening classes and I certainly can't see mysetf amo, amas. amatting with someone in Rusty O-levet. True, there isn't much opportunity to meet people you might want to get your leg over at many other venues, but perhaps

Marje Proops and the tike

should accept that evening

venue for turve.

academe is a pretty unlikely

Stage diving seems to be a popular pastime in American politics. It is difficult to forget Nancy Reagan disappearing suddenly from view as she edged her way along the stage at some do. Now Boh Dole is at it as well, falling off the stage while he was shaking hands with some voters. He was pronounced reasonably all right by a doctor, but I don't suppose it is the image that he really wants to portray. Lonks as if he might be on his last legs, the poor old

Readers of the grumpy papers are up in arms this week because they believe that "serious" journalism should not be devoting the

time that it has to the whole Oasis shenanigans. It was interesting to see these grown-ups handling what is a "youth" phenomenon and talking about them the way that your parents used to talk about bands on Top of the Pops. ("Looks like they need a good meal/wash/dentist etc.) The grown-ups want these boys to be bad, so they are very adequately fulfilling every expectation. Still, as yet none of them has cut himself up with glass on stage. murdered his girl-friend or died of a heroin overdose. Quite nice really,

More half Wa

devolu

But Pla Cyn draw

Pote By The Hea

Jolly good luck to the old Bish of Argyll, I say. At least he is sexually attracted to someone of the opposite sex over the age of 13. There are a lot of Catholics in comedy and many say that when they and many say that when they were children they bad the most miserable times of their lives at the hands of sadistic, unfeeling, dare I suggest it sexually frustrated priests or nuns. The power of the church at suppressing sexu desire in the ranks is at an all time low, but perhaps, hit of forgiveness, which all was something Jesus big on, might be in orde

لكذا من ألدمل

he wasn't dne in London for a week.

In fact, she was sup-posed to be in Flo-

miss the birth of your own

baby. So, at the capital's newest élite fashion store, no one was too surprised on Thursday

afternoon to see an emotional.

intense, fast-talking figure

bustling through the huge glass entrance, past the flickering candles and the tribal carved

chairs, breathing in the spiri-tual calm of a spacious cathe-dral dedicated to simple, fine

taste, fingering the black walls,

revelling at the suspended

white stone floors, touching the

gold-leaf painted staircase,

catching her own image in the

Donna Karan was in town to see her new, eponymous Lon-don store open in New Bond Street. It's the first ever devoted

to her collection, the pride of

a woman who is fast becoming

the most important female

designer in the world. After all,

she dresses Bill Clinton and

would, if America had a female

president, almost certainly kit

her out too. There she was on

day one, preaching to dedicated admirers the Karan Creed, her

love of sensuality, of comfort, of luxury and ease, the smells,

touch and femininity of a style

that seems to embrace women,

For Donna Karan has an

unusual relationship with her

customers. Often the passions

of fashion designers can be enthralling, courting a woman

client with the promise of transformation into another

being, teasing her that in her

body resides the finest beauty.

Then the affair turns sour

when the wearer realises the

designer is really in love with

a different woman, a mythical

Venus who barely exists except

Karan is different. She's a

as a freak accident of nature.

real woman, with a generous,

womanly shape. An exuberant,

warm, volatile New York Jew,

with few enemies, she designs

for bodies as they really are, cre-

ating garments that glide over

the bumps and lumps. "She

makes clothes you don't have to

be a model to wear," says

she is absolutely certain about

her neuroses," says lise Craw-ford, editor of Elle Decoration.

"She has all the neuroses of a

woman who looks in the mirror

and thinks, 'Yuk'. Her clothes

Her great strength is that

Vogue's Lisa Armstrong.

hug their very souls.

huge mirrors.

ence. But you can't

Market values

How long may you stand in front of the baked beans barring access to others?

david

t was not Laurence Cottam's finest hour. With one blow, the 56-year-old man had knocked another chap - Joe Wilkinson, a complete stranger - into the Mr Kipling cake display at Morrison's department store m Wakefield. On Tuesday, this act of violence cost him nearly a thousand quid in fines and compensation at Wakefield Magistrate's Court,

But why did be do it? How had Mr Wilkinson so offended him that it merited the expense of so much physical effort, money and, of course, reputation? What obscure rule had been broken, or insult rendered? Had Mrs Cottam been called the daughter of a mangy camel, perhaps? Or was there a Verona-style family feud between the houses of Cottam and Wilkinson?

It will not surprise regular visitors to our modern supermarkets that the answer to this riddle involves a shopping trolley and a revolving door - an almost unbeatable combination of resistible force and movable object. Laurence and his wife, Sylvia, were negotiating the doors with their own trolley, when Joe (who was behind them) misjudged his speed. Imagine Sylvia's little bark of pain, the hurt expression she ums on Wilkinson, her words of reproof - and her husband's feeling of protective anger.

his way. Laurence is not mollified by the expression of regret. In Wakefield, as in the mountains of Albania, bonour apparently demands blood sacrifice, so he follows Joe and, at the first available opportunity, rams his own trolley into his adversary's ankles. Words follow, until, surrounded by the gaudy sweemess of the cake department, Laurence's fist flies (appropriately) into Joe's cakehole. We can only feel glad for Mr Wilkinson that the denouement did not take place over the wet

Joe apologises and goes on

fish counter. We need now to transcend the obvious. It is clear that Mr Cottam is a man involved in a losing battle with his own id, and that Sylvia would be well-advised to do the shopping on her own. It is also true that acts of macho stupidity can disfigure almost any activity at any place. But it does appear that there are special and growing problems in supermarkets, involving fights in check-out queues, trolley-barging and bottles of wine hroken. Western saloon

style, over heads. Reflecting upon this, and upon my own experiences in Safeways and Sainsburys, I am beginning to think that what we are witnessing is not the breakdown of civility, but a state of pre-civility. Consider. Vast areas of our public lives are regulated by a million unstated little rules, which we all come to understand governing matters to do with precedence and

personal space. They are not laws; they are not even bylaws. Once, women like Emily Post would write them down, but this is no longer done, and today we do not even pass them on verbally. So, built over time like the British Constitution. they are simply absorbed.

In a cinema, for example, you may talk through the commercials, and through the title music of the main picture, providing that there is no action taking place. You may place your empty ice-cream carton carefully under your chair, but not in the aisle. If you find your seat covered in the coats and accessories of the person next door, you will stand there until they remove them (usually apologetically)

But supermarkets are too

new for us to have evolved such clear and wellunderstood rules. They are the new frontier, and in them bringing with us our own rough notions of justice. How long may you stand in front of the baked beans consulting your shopping list, but barring access to others? If your unattended trolley is blocking egress, can it be moved by someone else? If so, how far can it be moved without violating rules of ownership? Is priority given to those emerging from aisles, or to those in the corridors at either end? Only at the deli counter is order codified, and even then, we do not know whether the needs of those wishing to examine what lies under the glass take

precedence over those waiting to be served. It follows, therefore, that it is still almost impossible to calibrate the social seriousness of having your wife's shins attacked by a strange trolley, let alone the necessary admonitory response. So Mr Cottam's jab in the kisser is not to be seen simply as an act of violence, but should also be interpreted as a plea for guidance.

Are you about to fall in love with this woman?

by Jack O'Sullivan



Bill Clinton and other real-shaped Americans have already fallen for Donna Karan's simple, sensual clothes. Now the New York New Ager is coming to Britain

transported from Madison Avenue, a palace devoted to cosseting women - and men in a mean city. September rain may have lashed summer tans this week, thunder disturbed the cahn in Tuscan villas, but Donna's refuge for the rich is there to massage the spirit with finely-cut cashmere.

are designed to flatter women The message of her immiwith hips, which most women think they have, even if they nent arrival had been borne by friends in the preceding weeks. don't." They are "problem-solv-ing clothes" comprising essen-Demi Moore and her husband. Bruce Willis, have been wearing her clothes all over the tials that can be worn in different combinations to suit every pages of the glossies since occasion. She wears only her Angust, looking sexy, sensual and elegant, a little dishevelled, own designs. And she is a saleseven slightly shagged out, as if they have just slipped out of a hundrious bed in which sleeping woman with a common touch that wouldn't be out of place in an east London market. As she rolled into town, opening was a secondary consideration. across the road from Valentino, You can sense the eroticism, the a few doors down from Ralph intimacy of a couple, who may Lauren, Donna Karan was as be film stars, but who are also good as saying to British women: "Hey, sisters. Forget real people: Demi and Bruce are genuine husband and wife. these guys. Look at me. I'm Demi's looking tired and somelike you and I look and feel times vulnerable. She's got a bit great, Let me do it for you." of a tunniny. But the clothes still Her store is like something look fabulous.

This is the type of intimate. emotional advertising Donna Karan is using to draw Britons into her world. She is already the best girlfriend of many American women, the designer who gave them "the body", an all-inone undergarment with popper buttons on the crotch, the perfect canvas for her simply-cut jackets and dresses, of soft pliable materials that melt around the individual. Her hosiery is a marvel of engineering, smooth-

ing, supporting and sheering in all the right places. Her clothes speak to the aspiration of the modern, female professional who has matured since the power-dressing Eighties and now needs a subtler, more under-stated expression of status. She doesn't have to dress like a man. Nor does she have to be a sexual star, sparkling among the males in a short skirt. She needs to be comfortable. lightly dressed in clothes that will look good in the office, and still pass muster at a dinner party.

Most important, Karan's

those scaling fresh pinnacles in gender politics. Her father was a tailor and, although she grew up in a well-off Queens suburb, she is a self-made woman, who learned the art of salesmanship working in a shop at 14. Now, at 47, Donna Karan is mistress of a business empire that is valued at \$275m, though founded barely more than a decade ago. She has had to juggle fam-

personal life strikes a chord with

ily and career. Married at 19, she had her first child at 25 days before her boss and mentor Anne Klein died of cancer leaving her as heir apparent to the fashion house. Karan nearly gave herself a nervous breakdown, but produced a fresh collection in six weeks and then moved on to creating her own fashion house.

Her first marriage did not survive her success: she is now married to Stephan Weiss, a sculptor who has been a key figure in the business and who recently recovered from lung cancer. He calms her, she says, keeps her exuberance down. A

perity of the grain barons of

East Anglia and repairing a

social fabric ripped apart by the

demise of coal-mining and

other heavy industries take cen-

Dr Denis Balsom, a political

analyst at the University of

Wales, puts it like this: "Devo-

lution is important but I can't

help pointing out that some of

the emphasis on it is to do with

anti-government feeling. Nev-

ertheless, coming from the

four-to-one defeat of 1979 is an

impressive turnaround."

These days, Donna Karan has all the accountements of the successful New Yorker - an allwhite beach house in the Hamptons, a seven room Man-hattan apartment, friendship with Barbra Streisand. She's a New Ager and has spoken, to the concern of the stock market, about her reincarnation and seven past lives, including one

as a painter for the Medicis. But success has not apparently turned her into a shiny, brittle product. Ilse Crawford recalls a visit to her beach house. "When we got there for the shoot, I had remembered everything except some knickers. There I was in the middle of Long Island and nowhere to get knickers. She instantly rif-fled through her drawers and came out with a pair of hers, washed, but they had been used.

I thought, crikey, this is the sort

of thing an old friend does."
Fashion history will almost certainly judge Donna Karan as the executive woman's champion, who gave the new woman clothes in which she could feel easy anywhere. But ... that would neglect her triumphant entry into men's wear. She is responsible for some of the best-selling men's suits in America, all designed in simple style, with her husband Stephan in mind. There is, as with all Karan's best work only one problem. Expect to pay £2,000 for her finest suits, for men or women, at the new élite store. The rest of us, at a pinch, are more likely to be able to afford the £500-600 a suit at her more downmarket DKNY outlets. Or if that's too much, there are always kneehighs for £6.50.

Karan is reaching for fresh accolades. She is, like Ralph Lauren, demonstrating how open Britain and Europe is to mass fashion export from America. She brings New York to London in her advertising yellow cabs, glamour, glitz, the barshness of a city perched on the eastern seaboard, prey to the wind and ice of winter, the overbearing humidity of summer. For the past two years, DKNY, her in-your-face, hip store, located down the road from her new emporium, has been selling sports-wear, jeans, kids' clothes and some of her cheaper collection lines.

It has captured the British imagination. Furniture and a host of lucrative lifestyle spinoffs could come next. The big test now is whether British women will follow their American sisters and fall in love with Donna. Do we want to be



good Jewish mother, Karan

remains plagued by guilt over

not spending more time with

her daughter, Gabby, who is

now 22 and involved in the

business. She speaks of herself

as the dutiful mother of the

company, and of her employ-

ees as her children. She'll be

playing Earth Mother again at

a huge splash party next Thurs-

day during London Fashion

Week, aimed at raising dona-

tions for cancer research.

£10 BUYS A CHAIN CUTTER

He's chained up through his sensitive nose and ma on red not plates, whilst the back of his legs are bit in time to music. Onlookers taunt him and force him to drink beer. Why? Because they're teaching him to 'dance' for tourists who pay to watch his agonising waitz.

The World Society for the Protection of Animals | WSPA) rescues 'dancing bears' and takes them to sanctuaries where they can be tree of pain and suffering. But we can't carry out our life-eaving work without the support of people like you. Your gift of just £10, or whatever you can afford, will help cut the chains of innocent anim So please send your donation today. He's counting on you.

YES, I WANT TO CUT THE CHAINS!

able to WSPA or comple

Please send this completed form and your donation to: WSPA, Dept ALBB, Freepost NH2604, Northampton, NH3 6BR. No stamp is needed.

THANK YOU. Registered Charry No.2825

The sleepy Welsh dragon sniffs freedom Events are beginning to move. Earlier this week BBC ing a stressed farming industry light years away from the pros-

oday in Llandudno, Plaid Cymru winds up its annual conference with an unresolved dilemma hanging over Welsh nationalism. For despite desperate, even heroic efforts, the party, founded in 1925 to protect the Weish language and culture, seems unable to break out of its fortress in the rural north and

Areas such as the blindingly beautiful Lleyn Peninsula and Snowdonia may embrace nationalism, but in the heavily populated sonth, the party's appeal ranges from limited to almost non-existent. The nadir came on 16 May 1991 at the Monmouth by election when the Plaid candidate with tacit Green Party support polled 277 votes to Screaming Lord

Rutch's 314 Since then, helped by the fact that Conservative support in Wales was in freefall, the nationalists have made a recovery, of sorts. They outperformed the Tories at the 1994 elections by 162,478 10 138,323. And in last local government poll, new unitary authorivering the whole of ere set up, Plaid 113 councillors.



More than half of Wales wants devolution. But can

Plaid Cymru draw the votes? By Tony Heath

bad news for nationalists is that in racing terms, Labour won both contests by a distance, taking all five Euro seats with 530,749 votes and romping home west of Offa's Dyke with 731 councillors.

Dependence on the lan-guage vote is made evident by the fact that Gwynedd, which includes Snowdonia and the Lleyn, is the only local authority controlled by the national-ists. The county has 45 Plaid councillors, more than a third of the all-Wales total. Such facts undermine Plaid's claim to be "the party of Wales", a soubriquet fated to remain a Celtic spin-doctor's slogan, bearing in mind the loss of 20 deposits at the last general election.

In 1992 Plaid contested all 38 seats and returned four MPs, all from constituencies on the fringe of a Wales that is itself reckoned to be on the periphery by arrogant metropolitan

Dafydd Wigley, MP for Caernarfon and party leader, remains bullish about Plaid's prospects in the poll that matters most - the looming general election. "We have hopes of winning Carmarthen East legislation.

Clwyd West from the Tories,' he ventures. The Clwyd seat, the safest of the Tories' decidedly shaky half dozen in Wales, is held by Rod Richards, the right-winger who earlier this year resigned as Welsh Office under-secretary following allegations of an extra-marital affair.

To the surprise of many, the hlue rinses of the constituency - known as the Costa Geriatrica on account of the large number of retired people helped Mr Richards see off a move to deselect him.

Plaid is defending a majority of 1,106 in Ynys Mon. Ceredigion promises a close four-way battle where the defending nationalist MP, Cynog Dafis, acknowledged to be Britain's greenest MP, has lost the support of the Green Party following a spat over

fox-hunting.
The nationalists insist that devolution is a trump card. All parties except the Tories are committed in some shape or form to shifting power from London to Cardiff After a somersault, Labour,

TOTAL OF THE PARTY

Wales published the findings of an opinion poll signalling a significant shift from the four-toone rejection of devolution in 1979. Now just over half (55 per cent) of the sample of 1,000 questioned by Beaufort Research back the creation of an elected Welsh assembly. Some 28 per cent were against change, with 17 per cent undecided Ron Davies, the Shadow Welsh Secretary, rejoices that 83 per cent of those questioned backed a referendum.

The preferred option - an assembly with fewer powers than those proposed by Labour for a Scottish parliament - is not to Plaid's taste. Mr Wigley calls for a four-question referendum - the status quo, Labour's plan, an assembly with law making powers and full self-govern-

ment within five years.
"If all we get is a "yes" or "no" question then it's a waste of time. When we see what's on offer we'll call a special conference to decide our posi-

tion," he says.

This morning, Alex Salmond, leader of the Scottish National Party, will address the Plaid Cymru conference. SNP support spreads more widely than Plaid's. Nationalism north of the border has twice triumphed in by-elections at Govan, a con-stituency as industrial as, say, the Pontypridd seat of Labour's Kim Howells. At the 1989 byelection Howells' Plaid opponent polled less than half the Labour vote. Once the SNP. leader sits down today delegates are scheduled to debate prison

reform. That may be an easier assignment than forming plans to break out of their own electoral confinement.

But to many people, devoluif elected, has settled for a reftion is not the most important issue. Confronting the hlight of erendum before introducing a low-wage economy, buttress-

Annabella

French films of the 1930s, Annabella was also celebrated for her work in Hollywood in films like Suez (1938), with Tyrone Power, whom she married. Born Suzanne Charpentier

on 14 July - Bastille Day - 1909 at La Varenne-Saint-Hilaire, near Paris, she grew up with a fascination for the cinema. She was particularly passionate about Lilian Gish. "I always talked about movies. When I was 12, I wrote Studio on the chicken-shed in the back garden and aeted scenes from the movies I had seen. I was the director, cameraman, everything. used to sell my books to buy "My father was the publish-

er of a magazine. He spent all his time with writers and painters, and he was a keen photographer. I remember two phrases from that time that used to bother me: Come along, darling, it's time for your piano lesson and 'Come along. darling, Daddy wants to take some photos. And one day. Daddy, who always had photos of his family in his pocket, went to a painter's house, and met the famous writer t'Serstevens, a close friend of director Abel Gance, Daddy showed his photos, and t'Serstevens said, '1 know that Gance is looking for a girl . . . 'So Daddy came back and said, 'You know what? I've made a date for you."

Gance was embarking on his monumental Napoleon, production of which began in 1925, when Suzanne was 15. Apart from Josephine, there were few parts for women, but Gance invented a little family which would follow Bonaparte throughout his career. The daughter, Violine, was to represent those young women who worshipped Napoleon as their counterparts later worshipped Valentino. The part had been assigned to the English actress Mabel Poulton, and Suzanne was sent to Corsica to play one of Bonaparte's sisters. When he saw how beautifully she photographed, Gance dropped Mabel Poulton and gave the role to Suzanne. As an admirer of D.W. Griffith, he regarded

One of the best-loved stars of Suzanne as his Lillian Gish. He renamed her Annabella, after puem. "Annabel Lee", by Edgar Allan Poe.

until her screen time rivalled that of Josephine (Gina Manes). But when, after months of work. Annabella attended the Paris Opera for the premiere. she had the experience all actresses dread; virtually all her scenes had been cut. Gance explained that this was a specialv shortened version; her scenes would reappear in the fulllength version. But Annabella never went near the film again until she attended the restoration in 1983 at the Barbican, when she saw herself as Violine for the first time. (Ironically, when the restoration was presented in America, by Francis Ford Coppola, it was reduced from five to four hours - and all Annabella's scenes were cut once again.)

After the presentation at the Barbican, and an interview with David Shipman, Annahella wanted to see something of London, and we strolled around the West End. Her energy was extraordinary, as was her enthusiasm and humour; it was

impossible to believe she was 73.
"I loved filming," she said,
not to become a star hut to continue playing like when I was little. You know when you see children with an old box - for them it's a carriage. So, for me, to be in a film of Gance - I was that character. I was no longer me. So it was funny, on growing up. I continued to play as when I was little. It wasn't serious work. Heartfelt, yet, 1 had to give my all."

Her father managed her early career, when sound arrived he had the good fortune to secure her a role in René Clair's Le Million (1931).

Rene Clair was a strange eharacter. For months he would stay at home working on the sce-nario. His wife said, 'He won't answer the telephone. He won't even speak to me.' But when René had written the word FIN at the end of a scenario, for him the work was over and the fun

Praetical jokes staged by

Clair included a call from Berlin asking for Annabella. Clair said she was not free. A representative from Berlin arrived at the Gance expanded the part studio. Annabella despatched an assistant to report on what

he was like. He was hideous pock-marked, bearded, enormous. Clair encouraged her to leave the studio by a window to avoid him. "It was an extra he had made up like that. All the studio was in on it. One day, I thought I'd get back at him. Be-tween scenes, Clair would play with a yo-yo. He would even delay us with this yo-yo, doing the same annoying tricks. We hid a camera and we filmed René Clair at the back of a set. We said, 'Tonight we'll look at the rushes and we'll show this -what a laugh.' As soon as we went into the projection room, there arrived an important producer. We looked at each other: 'It can't be cut. What are we going to do? My God, he's go-ing to be angry.' But no, to show you Rene's personality, he got up and said. You will have noticed, my friends, that I did it

with my left hand?" "

Her favourite director, how-

ever, was the Hungarian Paul Fejos, for whom she made Marie, légende hongroise (1931) in Budapest. "I adored him. He was sincerity personified. 1 mean, if the scene required me to have tears in my eyes, he'd be behind the camera, with tears in his eyes as well. I thought Marie was a beautiful picture, the way Fejos told the old legend." For Vieille d'armes, Annabella won the best actress award at Venice in 1934 - the European equivalent of an Oscar. Thanks to such triumphs, she was soon in demand by Europe's top leading men. She married one of them - Jean Murat. She admired Louis Jouvet but felt he didn't enjoy working in films. He was accustomed to directing on the stage, and it was hard for him to accept orders. Jean Gabin she adored, and she had nothing but praise for Henry Fonda, with whom she played in Wings of the Morning in 1937.

hella was particularly fond of it because she had what amounted to three parts: Maria, a gipsy who escapes from the war in Spain - she played her both as a girl and in disguise as a hoy -and Maria's grandmother.

Also in England, she made Direner at the Ritz (1937) with David Niven and Under the Red Robe (1937) with Conrad Veidt. She returned to France to star in Marcel Carné's classic Hôtel du Nord (1938). Under contract to Fox, she went to Hollywood. Annabella had dreamed of Hollywood since childhood. She fell in love with the place. And she fell in love with Tyrone Power. She divorced Jean Murat in 1938 and married Power in 1939. According to her, the head of the studio, Darryl F. Zanuck, was so incensed by the marriage that he put her on a blacklist.

Zanuck was further angered by her refusal to return to Britain to make three films she owed 20th Century-Fox British. "He thought I was a crazy woman who despised success, money, pictures. The last straw was when I did a play with Ty-rone." The play, Lilion, was intended to be a quiet little affair in Westport, where not too much notice would be taken of them. But Elsa Maxwell gave a huge party, the notices were excellent and the couple were hailed as the next sensation for Broadway. Not a prospect that pleased Mr Zanuck. She did one more film for Fox, 13 Rue Madeleine (1943), with James Cagney, but only because the director, Henry Hathaway, insisted on having her.

Her proudest memory as an actress occurred on Broadway in 1944, during her stage career. "It was a very successful play, Jacobovsky and the Colonel, and in the middle of a hig scene, the safety curtain dropped. I said to myself, 'My God, there's a fire!' I went backstage. Paris has been liberated. Yes, it's just been on the radio. We'll take the curtain up - go and tell the audience.' 1 thought of my parents, my family, my friends, France, I went back on the stage all by myself England and in Ireland. Annaand I said to them, 'Paris is



bella as Violine in Abel Gance's Napoleon

Photograph: Kevin Brownlow Collection

free.' And you know the whole audience stood and sang La Marseillaise, It was thrilling." Now an American citizen, Annabella toured North Africa and Italy, entertaining the

troops with plays like Blithe Spirit. The separation did her marriage no good. Power, who had been in the marines, returned to Hollywood, where his name was linked with other stars. Annabella wrote to him "It is like seeing a beautiful hlack swan surrounded by geese." They separated and Anna-

hella returned to Europe. She had lost ber young brother. Nazis, her father had died just after the war and the family's two houses had been ransacked by the Germans. She worked in Spain and she worked in France. She made Dernier amour, an experience she hated. After a final film in Spain. she decided to end her career. "I finally had freedom. I hadn't had any since I was a kid; I'd always been famous. And one day I walked out and no one stared

Annabella remained loyal to Tyrone Power. They may have divorced in 1948, but she retained his name for the rest of her life. His portrait held pride September 1996.

at me. I loved it."

take I ever made was letting you go.' Wasn't that mice?" Kevin Brownlov

Suzanne Georgette Charpentier (Annabella), actress: born La Varenne-Saint-Hillaire, France 14 July 1909; married 1932 Jean Murat (one daughter; marriage dissolved 1938), 1939 Tyrone Power (marriage dissolved 1943);

of place in her home and they remained friends. "I was with him four days before he died," she told David Shipman, "making Solomon and Sheba, and he said, 'You know, the worst mis-

died Neuilly-sur-Seine, France 18

Professor E. J. H. Corner

E. J. H. Corner was the last of the titans (H. J. Lam, C. G. G. J. van Steenis, R. E. Holttum, P. W. Richards) who shaped tropical botany in the decades after the Second World War. In a long and colourful career he made significant contributions to the study and interpretation of higher fungi and flowering plants and drew attention to their wonders before television, when the world was a much bigger place than today.

John Corner, son of a surgeon, was educated at Rugby (of which he later became a governor) and at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where his talents in mycology caught the attention of F. T. Brooks, then a university lecturer. A year after graduation he went out in 1929 as Assistant Director of the Singapore Botanie Garden, charged to investigate the diversity and elassification of tropical fungi, then virtually unknown. These fruit briefly

and profusely just twice a year. Between times he developed an interest in trees, equally diverse in species. Dendrologists in that region work in unison as in 1940.

Corner: prolific and original Photograph: Godfrey Argent

with aboriginal tree climbers, not available in Singapore, so Corner for a few years used coconut-collecting monkeys instead. These were fickle and less productive and he had to give up when one hit him hadly, but a legend had been born which earned him many a dinner in later years.

He made detailed studies in the swamp forests of Johor and a few forays further north, restricted because of the 1930s depression. This work culminated

in Wayside Trees of Malaya, a famous, ground-breaking book interpreting trees to the layman and still today (in its third edition, 1988) as fresh and relevant

The first Technicolor feature to

be made this side of the At-

lantic, it was shot on location in

spent most of the Japanese occupation under house arrest, but were allowed to curate the herbarium and garden and to continue their research. Several scientists in the Dutch East Indies fared likewise. Corner sailed very close to the Japanese wind and, unlike the others, left the Colonial Service in 1946. He then spent two years for Unesco at Manaus in the Brazilian Amazon to set up a research institute. The venture failed hut triggered Brazil to create its own institute, thriving today.

Corner was then recruited to Cambridge, where Brooks had become professor. Corner spent the rest of his career as lecturer, as reader (1959) and finalwith a personal chair (1966) in tropical botany. He took on the mantle of H. Gilbert Carter, to interpret the plant world to students, using the very rich

University Botanic Garden, lihraries and herbarium. He was a memorable practical course in the garden. All botany students of whatever specialisation came Dicotyledons (1976). Corner and a few others to hear him. He made a lifelong impact and attracted to tropical botany some of today's leading proponents. His lectures showed originality, insight and iconoclasm, as did his writings.

Soon after arrival he published The Durian Theory (1949), the culmination of his researches into tropical trees. In this he brought together a series of their striking characters, including the hig, smelly, spiny, eponymous fruit, and declared he had identified the ancestral flowering plant. The theory depended on his powers of rhetoric, and is not widely accepted. It achieved the very important purpose of drawing attention to the funniness of tropical plants and got people to "think big" (subject of an-

other important paper of 1955). Later books followed on The Life of Plants (1964) and The Natural History of Palms (1966), the former full of his original-

ity but with dated aspects, the latter a fine broad-brush treata spellbinding lecturer and ran ment flawed by many small errors. In retirement came the highly original Seeds of

Corner led three Royal Society tropical expeditions, masterminded a fourth but failed to launch a fifth. His mafor taxonomic work of those vears was the classification of Asian figs, but he fell ont with his editor and this huge monograph of over 500 species has never been published.

John Corner could be charming, but could also be an irascible subordinate, colleague and mentor. There was his successful campaign, droll in retrospect, to prevent the erection of a grand entrance to the Cambridge Botanic Garden because it was to bave incorporated a public convenience; a kind of fenland Clochemerle. There was also his scintillating appearance as expert witness in a court case on the issue of whether packet soup could be labelled musbroom (rather than toadstool) if it contained a pore rather than a gill fungus.

Can the forgiving of sins he packaged as the leading item of the religious enter-

prise? During the Tcn Days of Penitence

in the Synagogue culminating in the Day

of Atonement, Yom Kippur, this concept seems to be the heart of Judaism. Syna-

gogues are filled with worshippers who

contemplate their sins and pray to be for-

given. But late in the afternoon of that 25-hour fast, the auention of the worshippers

begins to flag. The eongregation is tired out, and it is up to the rabbi to re-

awaken its interest.

"There was a ship, quall he," and the congregation sits up and takes notice. The

Ancient Mariner could stop any wedding

guest dead in his tracks with that open-

ing. And the rabbi has the advantage of telling the original tale, "Jonah and the Whale", as the assigned prophetic read-ing of the liturgy. To this day, a sailor killing

the albatross or suspected of bringing ill

luck to the ship is called a Jonah. In the

hiblical story, Jonah flees from God: this

causes the storm which abates once he is

thrown overboard. A big fish swallows him - and the story as well. To this day, fun-

damentalists will try to prove that whales

frequented the Mediterranean; but that

really wasn't the point of the narration. A fish story may also keep the congregation awake, but the story of Jonah is read

on Yom Kippur to show that repentance

A steady trickle of students worked under him but he never huilt a research group. Despite his high status, the respect be commanded and his eloquence on the vital importance of tropical botany, the subject ceased instantly in Cambridge on his retirement, the rich resources no longer used.

At times he seemed to feel professionally threatened. For example, another retirement book, Freshwater Swamp Forests (1978), on the swamp forests of Jobor, studiously ignored advances in tree science since his own researches in the 1930s.

For flowering plants he had left less in writing than bis fel-low titans so is less likely to have n lasting impact once the mem-ory of his characteristic lectures has gone. However, throughout his professional life and especially in the 23 years after retirement right up to his death, he was also a prolific and highly original mycologist. He rev-olutionised the classification of the higher fungi and has left a more permanent imprint on this science, with several major books to his name (from A

Monograph of Clavaria, 1950, to the seven-volume Adopolyporaceae, 1983-91) and big collections of tropical fungi still being worked on. Corner's eminence as an

original thinker was widely recognised by learned societies at bome and abroad. Among many other awards be received the first Japanese International Prize for Biology (1985) and, earlier this year, he jointly won the first de Bary Medal of the International Mycological Association.

T. C. Whitmore

Edred John Henry Corner, botanist: born 12 January 1906; Assistant Director, Gardens Department, Straits Settlement 1929-45; Principal Field Scientic Officer, Latin America, Unesco 1947-48; Lecturer in Botany, Cambridge University 1949-59, Reader in Plant Taxonomy 1959-65, Professor of Tropical Botany 1966-73 (Emeritus): FRS 1955; Fellow, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge 1959-73; CBE 1972: married twice (one son, two daughters); died Combridge 14 September 1996.

Plantagenet Somerset Fry

Plantagenet Somerset Fry published his first book, Mysteries of History (1957), as an undergraduate and more than 50 books in all: his last two books, on castles, await publication. The range of his interest, demonstrated in the subject matter of the books he wrote,

was extraordinary.
Although his main love was history, he was also an expert in antiques and several of his books became standard school texts, including a Children's History of the World (1972, 12th edition 1995). His writing was accessible, clear and popular with young readers. Perhaps his greatest contribution has been to infuse an interest in history and an explanation of why it is important for schoolchildren.

Peter George Robin Plantagenet Somerset Fry was a colourful character appropriate for his many names. The son of a naval officer who invented the hydraulic catapult, he was educated at Lancing College at the end of the Second World War and then started as a medical student at St Thomas's Hospital Medical School in London. Deciding Medicine was not his vocation he then studied Law at St Catherine's College, Oxford, and subsequently became in-terested in history and writing.

He became Secretary of the Oxford Union and a review editor of Cherwell. He twice won prizes on the Hughie Green quiz show Double Your Money and became a character at Oxford, Bearded, with a cape and gold-knobbed cane, he was the most famous undergraduate.

On leaving Oxford he joined. the staff of the Evening News writing controversial answers to historical questions. He was a popular figure on television historical programmes and was an authority on Julius Caesar. commemorating his death each year in the Times.

Despite his prolifie output, Somerset Fry never became rich from his writings and he was very generous with his advice, recently helping Norma Major with the historical aspects of her book on Chequers. He was an active supporter of good caus-es, including the Charities Aid Foundation and the Campaign for Freedom of Information. and as a founder member of the Liberal Democrats be was deeply disappointed with their subsequent history.

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Peter Somerset Fry bad a full and colourful life with many successes and disappointments, but intermittently he suffered from deep depression and eventually decided to end his life, explaining his intention to the Coroner in a letter. He is survived by his fourth wife, Fiona, who is also an author - the two collaborated on History of Scotland (1982) and History of Ireland (1988).

His second wife, Daphne, dicd of kidney disease in her twenties and he established a fund for research into the treatment and prevention of kidney

Roy Calne

Peter George Robin Plantagenet Somerset Fry, writer: born 3 January 1931; married 1952 Audrey Russell (marriage dissolved 1957). 1958 Daphne Yorke (died 1961), 1961 Leri Butler (nee Llywelyn-Jones; murriage dis-solved 1973), 1974 Fiona Whitcombe; died Wattisfield, Suffolk 10 September 1996.

Births, Marriages & Deaths

BIRTHS

ENGEL: On 19 September, to Fiona (nee Cooper) and David, a daughter, lona Louise. DEATHS

HOPKINS: Sunniva tta (Iva). on 17 September 1996, peacefully in hospital, deeply mourned by her sister, Emer. and a wide circle of friends, in her case, a particularly wide circle of friends because of her remarkable gift for easy and lasting friendships. Requirem Mass will be celebrated at St Thomas's Church, Canterbury, at 12 noon on Tuesday I October 1996, followed by cremation at Barham

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, in Memorians) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Whart, Loadon E14 5DL, telephoned to 0171-293 2011 (24-hour maswering machine 0171-293 2012) or fazed to 0171-293 2010, and are thouged at £6.50 a time (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements must be submitted in writing (or faxed), and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra.

followed by cremation at Barham Crematorium, Kent, Flowers to C.W. Lyons & Son Ltd, 70 Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, 01217-463508.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Changing of the Guard

marriages

Mr N. Pople and Miss A. Guno

Surrey, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Gunn, of Edwardes Square, London W8.

Professor Bernard Williams, philoso-pher, 67; Mr Jimmy Young, radio

Forthcoming

The engagement is announced between Nicholas Pople, son of Mr and Mrs Barrie Pople, of Dunsfold,

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr Ian Albery, impresario, 60; Lord Barnard, landowner, and former Lord-Lieutenant of Durham, former Lord-Lieutenant of Durham, 73: Mr Leonard Cohen, singer and poet, a2: Miss Shirley Conran, novelist, 64: Mr William Dacombe, chairman. Brown Shipley Holdings, 62: Miss Mary Fetherston-Dilke, former organiser of the Citizens' Advice Bureaux, 78; General Sir John Gibbon, former ADC to the Oueen 79; Mr Larry Hagman, actor, 65; Pro-fessor James Ham, former President, University of Toronto, 76; Mr John Hoddinott, Chief Constable, Hampshire. 52; Sir Colin Imray, former High Commissioner to Bangladesh. 63: Mr Stephen King, novelist, 48; Sir Hugh Lloyd-Jones, Emeritus Protessor of Greek, Oxford University, tessor of Greek, Oxford University,
74; Sir tan MacGregor, former chairman of the National Coal Board, 84;
Sir Peter Matthews, former chairman
of Vickers, 74; Mr Bill Murray,
actor, 46; Miss Jean Robertson,
former Matron in Chief, QARNINS,
68; Sir John Smith, former deputy
Commissioner, Mctropolitan Police,
58; Sir Brian Unwin, president,
European Investment Bank, 61;
Professor Bernard Williams, philoso-

TOMORROW: Dr Damie Abse, physician surgeon and poet, 73; Mr John Caird, theatre director, 48; Sir George Cartland, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Tasmania,

Dr David Drewry, Director, Science and Technology, Natural Environment Research Council, 49: Dr Liam Fox MP, 35; Mr William Franklyn, ac-tor, 70; Miss Gina Fratini, fashion designer, 65; Mr Colin Graham, Artistic Director, Aldeburgh Festival, 65; Sir James Henry, former chairman, Foreign Compensation Commission, 85; Professor Sir Frederick Holliday,

chairman, Northumbrian Water pic, 61; Miss Joan Jett, rock singer, 38; Mr Graham Jones, Headmaster of Repton, 52; Miss Deborah Lavin, Co-Director, Howlands Institute for the Study of Change, Durham Univer-sity, 57; Mr Mark Loveday, senior sity, 57; Mr Mark Loveday, senior partner, Cazenove & Co, 53; Professor Norbert Lynton, art historian, 69; Sir Charles Mander, Lloyd's underwriter, 75; Sir Nigel Mobbs, Lord-Lieutenant designate of Buckinghamshire, 59; Lord Moran, former High Commissioner in Canada, 72; Miss Catherine Ozenberg, actress, 35; Cupt Mark Phillips, borseman, 48; Mr George Richardson, chairman and managing director, James Richardmanaging director, James Richard-son & Sons Ltd, Winnipeg, 72; Lord Saye and Sele, banker, 76; Mr Alan

Waterworth Lord-Lieutenzot of

Merseyside, 65; Mrs Fay Weldon, an-thor, 65; Sir John Wickerson, former

President of the Law Society, 59;

Lord Younger of Prestwick, former government minister, 65.

Anniversaries TODAY: Births: Herbert George Wells, novelist, 1866; Gustav Holst (Gustavus Theodore von Holst), composer, 1874. Deaths: Virgil (Pub-lius Vergilius Maro), Roman poet, 19 BC; Sir Walter Scott, novelist, 1832; Actus Schenenhauer, philosopher. Arthur Schopenhauer, philosopher, 1860. On this day: Stonehenge was sold by auction for £6,600, 1915; the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) was inaugurated, 1949. Today is the Feast Day of St Matthew the Apostle, and St Maura of Troyes.

TOMORROW: Births: Anne of 84; Miss Maria Charles, actress, 67; Cleves, fourth wife of King Henry VIII, 1515; Michael Faraday, physi-cist and chemist, 1791. Deaths: Thomas Doggen, actor and donor of the Thames watermen's coal and badge, 1721; Alain-Fournier (Henri-Alban Fournier), writer killed in action on the Marne 1914. On this day: France was declared to be a Republic, 1792; Abraham Lin-coln issued the Emancipation Prodamation, ordering the tracing of slaves, 1862. Tomorrow is the Feast Day of St Emmeramus, St Felix III (IV), pope, St Lauto or Lo, St Man-rice of Agaunum, St Salaberga, St Thomas of Villanueva and the Theban Legion.

Lectures

National Gallery: Julia Tezer, "Body Language (iii): Delaroche, The Ex-ecution of Lady Jane Grey", 12pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Avril Hart, "The Art of Savile Row Tailoring: the firm of Henry Poole 1306-1996", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury,

British Museum: George Hart, "An-ciem Egyptian Temples: Karnak and Luxor", 1.15pm.

their patronage", 3pm. Camden Aris Centre, London NW3:

TODAY

Making the Most of Minimalism

National Portrait Gallery: Karin Fernald, The Queen, the Prince and the Artists: Victoria, Albert and

James Welling and Andrew Cross dis-cuss Welling's photographs, 3pm (tickets required). TOMORROW

Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury,

"The Changing Face of Beauty (iv): 19th century", 2.30pm.

National Portrait Gallery: Judith

really works.

Jonah is the Savonarola of his day. He visits Nineveh, that evil city, and informs it that it will be destroyed in three days. Then he climbs a hill for a hird's eye view. But the people repent: the city is not destroyed. The prophet is mortified. What is the sense of proclaiming "Repent! The end is nigh!" when the end does not come? Prendergast, "R.D.: the life and films of Robert Donat", 3pm.

faith preason

A new chance to make amends in life

Monday is Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement. Rabbi Albert Friedlander, of the Westminster Synagogue, argues that, as Jonah and the Whale prove, repentance really works.

Hard-line prophets are more concerned with punishment and destruction than with a last-minute reprieve from on high. Yet a careful reading of the Bible shows a line halance between condemnation and consolution in the prophetic texts. A righteous remnant will always remain, and apocalypse is beyond the horizon, preached only by the very few.

No one can deny the "sin couching at the door" of our society: Nineveh can be visited in any continent at any time, and child abuse, slavery, and the cold ex-ploitation of human beings is the order of the day. The liturgy of Yom Kippur demands an alphabetic confession of sins, reminding worshippers of communal re-sponsibilities: in any city, whether it is London or Bangkok, human beings die of hunger, neglect, and lack of shelter on any day. And we are guilty. But the prayer book is devoid of threats promising hellfire and brimstone, eternal punishment for the sinner. The albatross is not hung around the neck of the sinner who is excluded from converse with the right cous.

Everyone is responsible; but it is not the function of the rabhi to send all worshippers on a terminal guilt trip. The call of the pulpit is for righteous action, for caring and for compassion.

During this period, the rabhi combines

the function of prophet, priest and pas-tor. Few of us can carry that heavy burden. We still mourn the untimely death of Rabhi Hugo Gryn, whose prophetie style was that of Jeremiah but never of Jonah. He never condemned, even when he was fierce in his hattle against injustice. He reached out with love to everyone he encountered, and did not set himself up as judge and jury when he wandered through the moral mazes of our time. Where Jonah wanted to see blood, Hugo was ready to give it - and every aspect of his being - to those who needed help. On the Day of Atonement, his favourite text came from the liturgy: "Prayer, penitence, and charitable actions avert the evil decree."

Hugo had survived Auschwitz, but still believed in the basic goodness of humanity. He also enjoyed laughter as a healing balm, and often preached on the Book of Jonah. The last line of the book explains why God forgives Nineveh and its huge population who can't distinguish between their right hand and their left; also, there is much cattle". As Hugo saw it, that last line also involved all household pets: dogs, cats, parrots, goldfish! The children loved this; and the prophetic text once again became a fish story.

It also returned Yom Kippur to the family who have to live with the reality of sins and omissions within the home. They derive the context of the pulpit, but hope for new chances to make amends daily life.

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Money pages in the Weekend section

CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2636 fax 0171-293 2098 Booming economy sends consumer confidence soaring

DIANE COYLE Economics Editor

Consumer confidence has jumped this month to its highest level since the summer of 1988, in the economy's latest

echo of the Lawson boom. The improvement in optimism follows figures earlier this week showing that the in-crease in the volume of sales on the high street this summer

1980s and that mortgage lend-ing increased again last month. The evidence that consumers are feeling good is now overwhelming. This will come as a great relief to the Government, which has been counting on an improvement in the state of the economy ahead of the general

However, the signs of a good, old-fashioned consumer boom are likely to prevent Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Ex-

chequer, from delivering a final reduction in interest rates ahead of the election. Indeed, many City analysts - along with the Bank of England - think the cost of borrowing might have to rise during the next few months to choke off inflationary pressure. Although headline inflation is likely to fall towards the Government's 2.5 per cent target for some mooths, the pickup in demand will drive it up in

Eddie George, Governor of fidence survey, carried out each the Bank of England, is likely month for the EU Commission repeat his carlier advice, that he would prefer interest rates to be at 6 per cent rather than the current level of 5.75 per cent, when he meets the Chancellor at their regular meeting on Monday.

The financial futures market betting that base rates will rise by a quarter-point before the end of this year. According to yesterday's con-

by GfK, the improvement in optimism was due mainly to greater confidence about gen-eral economic prospects. The number of respondents saying the UK's economic situation had got worse during the past 12 months or was likely to get worse during the next 12 declined substantially hetween

August and September. There were also modest im-

provements in people's opti-mism about their household finances, past and future. The overall confidence index rose from a balance of minus 3 per cent of optimists over pessimists in August to minus I per cent in September. For men, normally more optimistic, the index climbed from zero to plus 2 percent. The consumer confidence index has only ever been positive for two or three months, with the exception of

the boom years of 1987-88. John O'Sullivan, an economist at NatWest markets, said: "Today's survey confirms the strength of consumer sentiment and shows that households are now feeling the benefit of

economic recovery." The Government must now be hoping that the link between consumer confidence and the Conservatives' opinion poll showing can be restored. It broke down four years ago;

when the pound dropped out of the European exchange rate mechanism.

There was anecdotal evil dence yesterday that the coosumer upswing has continued into this mouth.

The latest weekly sales figures from the John Lewis department store and supermarket group showed that sales in the seven weeks to 14 September were nearly 17 per cent higher than a year earlier.

Lloyds TSB set to spin off chunk of £1.5bn Abbey Life

Banking Correspondent

Lloyds TSB Group yesterday announced a long-awaited £1.5bn deal to buy the remainder of Lloyds Abbey Life, its in-surance arm. But City sources suggested Lloyds is poised to spin off a large part of the com-pany in an £800m trade sale.

There was speculation that Prudential is the most likely bidder for a demerged Abbey Life. the business Lloyds bought in 1988 to combine with its own in-

surance operations. Lloyds TSB has been faced with the persistent problem of how to unify the different insurance businesses it owns through Lloyds Abbey Life and TSB, ever since the merger between the two banks at the end of last year. TSB was already a big player in the life assurance industry and City sources said selling Abhey Life would help the bank resolve the dilemma.

Lloyds TSB released few details about the deal reached yesterday, but said it would make further information available next week.

The deal valued each Lloyds Abbey Life share at 635p, ex-cluding any tax credit. Lloyds. Abbey Life shareholders will receive six Lloyds TSB shares for before falling back to 621p. up every seveo Lloyds Abbey Life 29p. Lloyds TSB share price shares plus 300p cash for every slipped 12.5p to 378.5p.

tributing 50p of the 300p through a special dividend. Selling Abbey Life would

teave Lloyds TSB with the parts of the venture it put into Lloyds Abbey Life wheo it was formed io 1988. That would leave Lloyds TSB with Black Horse Financial Services and other businesses in insurance, estate agency, personal finance and unit trusts.

The bank would then be able to deal with its main priority which is to capitalise on TSB Life, a well-known hrand name in Scotland, and Black Horse Financial Services.

One source insisted Prudential was the obvious partner for the remaining Ahbey Life husiness, which primarily sells peo-sions and life insurance. Prudential, sitting on a

£1.75bn cash pile and known to he on the hunt for acquisitions, is regularly among the market's favourites canditates to launch takeovers. Lloyds TSB was rushed into

making yesterday's announcement after beightened speculation about the fate of Lloyds Abbey Life on Thursday sent the insurer's share price 11.5 p higher to 592p. Yesterday Lloyds Abbey Life's share price hit a new high

to have paid a full price," one banking analyst said.

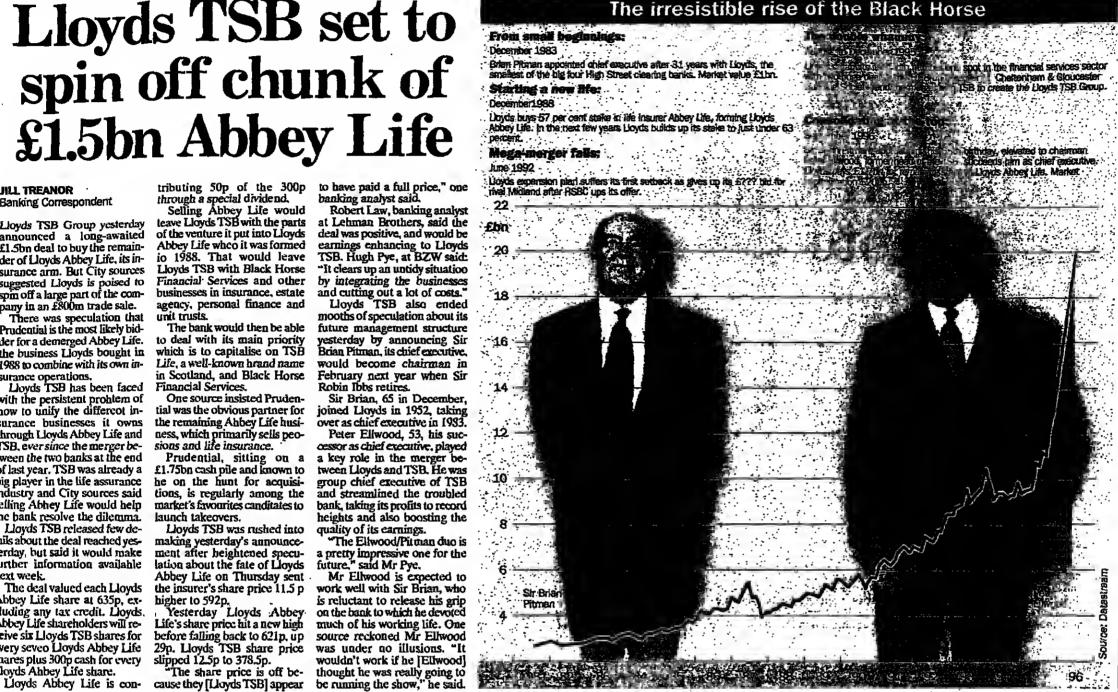
Robert Law, banking analyst at Lehman Brothers, said the deal was positive, and would be earnings enhancing to Lloyds TSB. Hugh Pye, at BZW said: "It clears up an untidy situation by integrating the businesses

and cutting out a lot of costs."
Lloyds TSB also ended mooths of speculation about its future management structure yesterday by announcing Sir Brian Pitman, its chief executive, would become chairman in February next year when Sir Robin Ibbs retires. Sir Brian, 65 in December,

joined Lloyds in 1952, taking over as chief executive in 1983. Peter Eliwood, 53, his successor as chief executive, played a key role in the merger between Lloyds and TSB. He was group chief executive of TSB and streamlined the troubled bank, taking its profits to record heights and also boosting the

quality of its earnings. "The Ellwood/Pitman duo is pretty impressive one for the future," said Mr Pye.

Mr Ellwood is expected to work well with Sir Brian, who is reluctant to release his grip on the bank to which he devoted much of his working life. One source reckoned Mr Ellwood was under no illusions. "It wouldn't work if he [Ellwood]



The bank that wants to be just like Coca-Cola

Ask Sir Brian Pitman which well-known companies he would like Lloyds TSB to emulate and the first name that springs to the lips of the group's new chairman is the Coca-Cola company, just about as far from hanking as it is possible to get.

Sir Brian is a great admirer of Coca-Cola's performance in creating value for sharebolders, building a top-flight cadre of managers, and achieving high ratings for customer satisfaction and employee relations. He is not, of course, dropping a hint that Lloyds TSB will soon be selling hrown fizzy liquids in its branches. You might think it very

strange for us to compare ourselves with a soft drinks company," Sir Brian said. "But if we can keep up with Coca-Cola it would be a considerable achievement.

Other British bankers, pressed to say which companies they most admire, are more likely to cite Lloyds TSB than Coca-Cola Indeed, many management consultants and business schools have long had the group and its predecessor, Lloyds Bank, high on their lists of successful case studies.

It was one of the first quoted companies publicly to make shareholder value a key objec-tive of management. Now it is a phrase on every chief execu-

Lloyds TSB's new chairman is inspired by a soft drinks company, writes Peter Rodgers

During Sir Brian's period as chief executive, which began in 1983, Lloyds' market capitalisation has risen from £1bn to more than £20hn. Sir Brian's reward yesterday for trans-forming a staid, old clearing bank into what is widely acknowledged as Britain's most dynamic retail financial services empire, selling both banking and insurance, was to be promoted to the chairmanship.

In the old days, clearing

successful company," he says. tiooal horizons of its own Lloyds regularly exchanges in-formation with a small group of top companies, including at least one in the motor industry.

The problem in seeking conveotional benchmarks against which to compare the Lloyds TSB group is that financial services firms have not been particularly good performers over the past 15 years.

The Lloyds board looked first at UK hanking and insur-

'Management education turns people on more than anything else'

banks chose their chairmen ance and then expanded its from the upper reaches of the establishment and their chief executives from long-serving bankers who started at the bottom of the ladder, with the professionals excluded from the chairman's sent. That is another thing that has changed in hanking.

But why does Sir Brian focus on Coca-Cola as a rote model? There are other world beaters, he concedes as an afterthought, but not many of them. General Electric is the only other worthy target whose name he is pre-pared to mention. "A brilliantly

11621.61 10204.87 3.49† 2546.63 2253.36 1.76†

Source: FT Information

comparisons to the worldwide finaocial industry, but could not find any companies that had been consistently top flight over several business cycles. From that fruitless search arose the idea of ignoring the products companies made and concentrating on the way they ran their

businesses and served their shareholders and customers. Coca-Cola's characteristics ioclude excellent leadership in every part of the company and at every level, says Sir Brian. It has also been successful at coutinually expanding the educa-

turns people on more than any-thing else. People become excited about things that are new that they find they can do. The desire to be better is very strong," said Sir Brian, who enthused about the importance of giving people the opportunity

An example is pay differentials in the branches, which used to be dictated by a ceotralised personnel system: "Managers used to say, 'We have too many underperform-ers in this place – head office should do something about them'. Now we say to the managers in the branches, 'You do something about it, and we will

The fundamental principle Sir Brian admires at companies such as Coca-Cola is, however, a very simple one. He said the top management "sets extremely stretching goals - some would say unreasonable ones. That is the absolute key in

these outstanding companies."
Furthermore, their performance targets encourage a common interest between management and shareholders, and that is where shareholder value

In Sir Brian's earlier days at Lloyds, one of the first performanagement. Lloyds, one of the first performance measures the hank used was the ratio of market value to £20bn," he said. hook value, which shows whether investors think assets down the organisation: every part of the business has to are being used well or not.

But at Lloyds, this evolved to measuring value by total shareholder returns, measured by the increase in the share price plus the cumulative total of dividends paid out. From that

Lloyds evolved an even simpler

value itself as if it were a publicly quoted company,

pudding is in the eating. "We

started when Lloyds was worth

£1.2bn, and now it is worth

He spreads the message

whether it be the registrar's department in Worthing or the leasing business.
But haven't big takcovers

It would be brilliant to double shareholder value every three years'

measure of success, which is how long a company takes to double shareholder value. For many typical British compa-nies it takes six or more years. For Coca-Cola, the period is three years, and that is the stiff target Sir Brian set his managers, to considerable scepticism

from some of them. He insists that boards must be careful to look at a 10-year cycle. to avoid a short-term outlook. "We say it would be heilliant to achieve a doubling of shareholder value every three years over the next 10 years," Sir

Yesterday Bay's day Year ligo

been the real driving force be-hind Lloyd's recent growth? There is Abbey Life, an unsuc-

share, theo the underlying performance shows through, irre-spective of the scale of takeover. More important, he insists that organic growth from withm is the the key feature of all successful companies, even though they may make add-on

of senior management. They were to think of themselves as cessful bid for Midland Bank, then the absorption of Chel-tenham & Gloucester and TSB. Sir Brian has two answers. If performance targets are measured in terms of value per it should do the joh itself.

Lloyds has since then been transforming itself into Britain's biggest retail financial services group, by driving for market share in mortgages, high-street banking and insurance, shedding peripheral businesses and slashing its costs as it goes.

Maxwells may be quizzed by DTI

JOHN WILLCOCK

Ian Maxwell has been asked to an interview next week with the Department of Trade and Industry inspectors investigating the flotation of Mirror Group five years ago. It is understood that his brother, Kevin Maxwell, whose second trial was scrapped on Thursday, is also expecting an invitation.

The DTI inspectors suspended their investigation dur-ing the first Maxwell trial and during preparations for the second trial, which will now not take place. It had been assumed that once criminal proceedings were out of the way, the report could be published. The inspectors, Mr Justice Thomas and Raymond Turner, a partner with accountaots Neville Russell, have now started the "provisional criticisms" process. This involves sending extracts of the draft report to parties and witnesses criticised

rescotations to the DTI about the criticisms. Two obstacles, however, stand in the way of the publication of the report. Neither Kevio nor lan Maxwell, directors in their father's husiness empire in 1953) have been interviewed by the in spectors. The brothers argued before the first trial that they should not be interviewed while

in it, enabling them to make rep-

criminal proceedings were outstanding. Ian Maxwell received a letter er this week asking him to attend an interview with them. Kevin Maxwell has not received

a letter, but is expecting ooe. The DTI refused to comment, saying only that the

investigations. Keith Oliver, of solicitors Peters & Peters, representing Kevin Maxwell, said no approach had been made by the inspectors since the abandon-

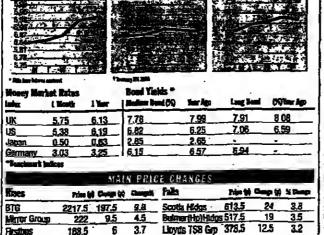
ment of the trial on Thursday. The second obstacle is the strength of Mr Justice Buckley's comments wheo dismissing the second trial. He said: "I have reached a very clear view that these proceedings serve no fur-ther public interest. To pursue them in the face of the jury's unanimous verdict in the first trial would test both the public's confidence and the integrity of the system."

Legal sources suggested y terday that it would be difficult for the DTI to taunch any kind of action, if it were minded to do so, against Kevin Maxwell, after the judge's comments.

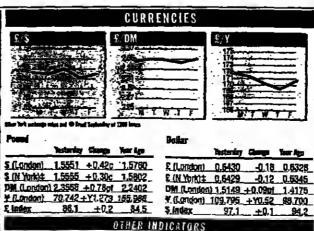
The inspectors were asked to investigate "the affairs and membership" of Mirror Group and, in particular, the flotation of 49 per cent of the group's shares, which raised £245.5m from investors in 1991.

One of the key issues the report is expected to focus on is who gave assurances that there would be a "ring fence" sepa-rating Mirror Group from other Maxwell interests, whether it was correct to give this assurance and the extent to which the assurance was used in pre-flotation

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INTEREST RATES



lates Latest Yr Ago Mest Figs 22.40 +0.44 16.09 RPI 153.7 2.19c 149.8 381.60 +1.70 383.30 GDP 107.9+0.49c 126.9 245.39 +1.76 242.55 Base Rates — 5.75pc 5.75 153.1 2.1pc 149.5 10 Oct 107.9+0.4pc 126.9 24 Sep

Colonial Mutual set to pay £285 a policy.

More than 350,000 UK policy-holders with Colonial Mutual were vesterday told they stood to receive eash or shares worth at least £285, on current prices, for each policy they hold with the company when it floats on the stock market next year, writes Nic Cicutti.

acquisitions. Organic growth "comes from a constant flow of

ideas. You are never going to

achieve those unless you

embrace radical change all the

Innovation is absolutely vital.

he says. That includes an

acceptance that products have a life cycle. All the people

writing strategy papers in Lloyds TSB start off by saying these are the things we should

stop doing, or put on the back-

He warned that, "the minute

burser rather than promote".

you think you have found the

recipe for success, that is when

you are going to get into

point for Lloyds Bank five years

ago. A senior executive - not Sir Brian - suggested a theme at a

weekend brainstorming session

predators who had taken over

the bank, and ask themselves

Sir Brian says the ideas the assembled managers came up

with convinced the board that

what they would do to it.

Sir Brian identifies a turning

The shares handed out, a minimum of 225 per policy, will also depend on the value of policies in force with Colonial Mutual. Analysts estimate each share is likely to be worth 127p. The flotation will be the first by a mutual life company's pol-

icyholders in the UK.

the company plans to he shares unclaimed by its holders in a trust. If they bunclaimed by 2001, the redistributed among

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Colonial said that 90 per cent of its members would be entitled to more than the minimum share allocation, with 50 per cent of policyhoiders in line for at least 1,000 shared.
Colonial Mntual, an Australia tralian insurer, will hand out the same number of options per a further set of shares at a 15 per cent discount. In addition

ing shareholders.

Why staying mutual is better for policyholders

Any week now the board of Norwich demutualise and float on the stock market.

Given the stock market. Given the amount of work and effort that has already been put into preparing for this seismic event, it would be astonishing if Allan Baidac event, it would be astonishing if Allan Baidac event. Bridgewater, chief executive, and his col-leagues were to decide against; in effect, the decision has already been taken. It remains

only to ruhber-stamp it.

Norwich Union is nue of Britain's largest mutually owned insurance companies. When loated it can be expected to command a capitalisation of around £4bm, putting it on a par with Legal & General as joint third-biggest insurance company by value in Britain. It will also he the first of Britain's insurance companies to demutualise via a stock market flotation, extending a trend into insurance that is already a stampede among the huild-

With yesterday's announcement from Colonial Mutual, an Australian-based mutual, that it too is demutualising and distributing free shares to members, there is the life companies will be every sign that the life companies will be embracing the trend with equal enthusiasm. Already we have seen a number of mutual takeovers. What Norwich and Colonial are doing by floating takes the process a step further. By choosing this route they are cer-

لكذا من ألاصل

There are special reasons Norwich should want in float in the stock market. Unlike most other mutuals, it has an extensive and successful general insurance business. As things stand, the company's owners, the policyholders, get no benefit from it. There is no mechanism to allow value from the general insurance business to flow into the life

The idea, therefore, is that the life fund should sell the general insurance arm to a new holding company, which in turn will pay for the business by selling a half of its shares to investors on the stock market. The rest of the shares will be distributed to policyholders, who thus get a double benefit. The life fund is recapitalised from the proceeds of the general insurance sale and the size of the bonus is increased accordingly. At the same time, policyholders get free shares in the new holding company, enabling those who don't sell to retain a degree of voting

This is a neat solution to a particular problem; there's an obvious short-term boost for policyholders and they retain a fair slug of voting control, too. Whether it is also in their ther. By choosing this route they are certainly in tune with the spirit of the times, but that doesn't necessarily mean that what they that it is not. The performance record of those of us who write about these things that

There are all kinds of reasons why this might be the case. For a start there is the fact that with a proprietary company, a proportion of the profile usually 10 per cent - goes to sharcholders rather than being retained in the fund for the benefit of policyholders. But the most important reason, it has always seemed to me, is the most obvious, A mutual is run solely for the benefit of the with-profits pulicyholders. There is no one else to serve. If, on the other hand, control s passed to another class of owner, the shareholders, there can be little doubt where the balance of benefit must ultimately lie. Management will be working primarily for the sharehulders.

A free market purist would argue that this sirrelevant, that the company that best serves shareholders is the one that also best serves its customers by providing the most attractive product. In practice, however, it often duesn't work this way. Crunching the customer, is in my experience, as powerful a motivation in husiness as serving him. This is especially the case in financial services where even these days the customer can be quite unaware of the nature of what he is buy-

mutuals is outstandingly better than the pro-prietary companies. so much time, effort and research can be invested in huying, say, a motor car, but so invested in huying, say, a motor car, but so little when buying an endowment, a pension nr a PEP. A generation of life companies has grown up un the simple truth that in finan-cial services customers neither understand fully what they are huying nor how much they are paying for it. Commission disclo-sure appears to have done little to correct the problem. Some proprietary life companies are in truth no more than straight sales operations, an elaborate way of generating commission and enriching the employees. There is little likelihood of a company as

robust and trustworthy as Norwich Union transforming overnight into a rip-off operation of this type. There is a danger, nonetheless, that the old paternalistic culture of working solely for the policyholder is lost. The benefits of mutual ownership are much more tangible for life companies than building societies. With building societies, they are nebulous and questionable. If they are reflected at all, it is through keener deposit and mortgage rates. These are as likely to be infinenced by market pressures as anything else. With a mutual life company, profit is created solely for the purpose of distribution to the policyholder.

A cynic might say that the main purpose of demutualisation is the higger salaries, share option schemes and long-term incentive plans available to executives in publicly

quoted companies. While this is often the effect, it cannot in all serinusness be advanced as the purpose. No, most of the time it is the need for more capital that drives these things. This, however, is usually more symptomatic of a badly run mutual than an addictment of the mutual form of man anadottement of the milital form of ownership as such. The rules require that the weaker the life fund becomes, the more it has to hold in low-risk investments such as bonds. The fund thus becomes caught in a vicious circle of underperformance.

Alife company that expands too rapidly can find itself in the same position. The requirement for more working capital to support this new business restrains the investport this new business restrains the invest-ment strategy that the fund can pursue, eventually sidelining the company. A strong, well-managed mutual should not be running into problems of this sort. For instance, there is no evidence that Standard Life's mutual structure is restricting either its ability to grow or its investment performance.
I don't want to criticise Norwich Union

too much but it does seem to me that the argument is being put the wrong way round: mutual life companies shouldn't be having to make the case for staying as they are. Rather, it is those planning to convert that need to demonstrate much more forcibly than they have to date why this is such a good

SFO to launch investigation into Young's dealings

and JILL TREANOR

The Serious Fraud Office is set to launch a formal investigation into the activities of Peter Young, the fallen Morgan Grenfell director whose fund management deals may have cost his company several hundred million pounds.

Sources said yesterday the investigation would begin next week, as soon as an inquiry by Morgan Grenfell into the same circumstances was completed and a report handed to the SFO. At the centre of the SFO's in-

quiry will be the question of whether Mr Young, who was sacked by his employers on Tuesday, profited personally from

Mutuals so a poly

that Mr Young, who managed newspapers from disclosing two of the company's European details of Mr Young's visits to investment trusts, evaded UK financial regulations by parking a wide range of unlisted securities in the Luxembourg holding companies.

After the irregularities were discovered, Morgan Grenfell's German owner, Deutsche Bank, was forced to spend £180m to buy the unlisted securities from the trusts. It also faces heavy compensation

claims from investors. Meanwhile, Mr Young faced fresh embarrassment after lawyers acting on his behalf served injunctions on a number of national newspapers, including The Independent, for-bidding them from publishing

Sandra, or another person named as Tracy, at their premises in the Paddington area of London between June and December last year.

The injunction is believed to have been aimed primarily at a tabloid newspaper which has been supplied with pictures and a story by Sandra and Tracy.

However, Peter & Peters, the law firm acting for Mr Young, failed to obtain an order stopping newspapers from reporting the injunction. Mr Young and his wife, Har-

manna, refused to comment on the court injunction yesterday. The couple, who have been repeatedly pictured together, re-



Peter Young: Lawyers served Injunctions on newspapers

have been married since February 1991, have two sons, George, aged three years, and two-year-old Henry.

After his suspension from

work, Mr Young, 38, has re-peatedly spoken of his belief that even though he and his wife might lose everything he has worked for, at least they had each other.

Deutsche Bank has bought the Japanese banking subsidiary the setting up of a series of holding companies in Luxembourg.

Morgan Grenfell has alleged

The injunction also prevents

The latest of the companies of Chase Manhattan Bank, which will be called Deutsche under a European directive.

The latest of the companies of Chase Manhattan Bank, which will be called Deutsche under a European directive.

The latest of the companies to agree a works council was Morgan Grenfell Trust Bank.

UK thumbs up to works councils

BARRIE CLEMENT Labour Editor

British multinationals have proved far more enthusiastic about setting up European works councils than their Continental counterparts with just 48 hours to go hefore a critical deadline imposed from Brussels

Up to a third of UK companies which qualify have set up procedures for consulting and informing employees compared with little more than 10 per cent of German and French companies. And despite the Government's opt-out from the social chapter of the Maastricht Treaty, all have included British workers on the councils. John Edmonds, general sec-retary of the GMB general union, calculates that 45 UK businesses have decided to establish consultative procedures under a voluntary arrangement which expires tomorrow in-

Another 35 organisations -which qualify under the directive because they employ more than 1,000 workers in the European Union with 150 in each of two countries - are said to be

negotiating with the GMB. John Cridland, director of human resources at the CB1, who estimates that nearer 25 companies have signed voluntary agreements, argues that British multimationals have simply chosen to sign tailor-made voluntary deals than wait for the more prescriptive directive to be

introduced. Unlike German and French companies which are more used to a regulated husiness environment, UK groups are anxious to avoid restrictions imposed by the European Union, Mr Cridland said. "This has got nothing to do with companies ignoring the European opt-out, it is a business de-cision." Ruth Lea, of the Institute of Directors, said that it was the "lesser of two evils".

stead of waiting for a potentially

IN BRIEF

• BSkyB's directors stand to get up to eight times their salaries in "phantom shares", which are similar to options but do not require the recipient to buy shares in order to exercise them. The potential windfalls emerged with the publication this week of the satellite broadcaster's annual report. The company has also insaicinte oroancasier s annual report. The company has also increased the percentage that directors can share of its profits from 1 per cent to 1.5 per cent. The higgest beneficiary of the changes is Sam Chisholm, chief executive, whose total remuneration package last year, including pension and bonuses, amounted to £3.8m.

 Average weekly household apending rose to £289.90 in 1995-96, up from £283.60 a year earlier, the Office for National Statistics reported. Average gross income rose to £380.90 from £369.30 the previous year. The average household spent £52.90 on food and non-alcoholic drinks, £43.20 on motoring and fares, £38.60 on household goods and services, £17.20 on clothing and shoes, £12.90 on fuel and power, £11.40 on alcohol and £5.80 on tobacco. Full details from the annual Family Expenditure Survey will be published on 10 October.

 Greenalls, the pubs and hranded restaurants group that re-cently fell out of the FT-SE 100 index, said profits in the 11 months o August were in line with expectations and significantly ahead of last year, thanks to the acquisition last November of Boddington. That deal would not dilute earnings per share in the current year, the company said in a trading statement, and would be earnings enhancing in future years. Cost savings of £18m are still seen for the first 12 months following acquisition.

Glazo Wellcome has named Ronaldo Schmitz, a member of Deutsche Bank's board of managing directors and chairman of Deutsche Bank North America, as a non-executive director beginning next year. Dr Schmitz, 57, joined Deutsche Bank in 1990 after spending more than 20 years with BASF.

 Edge Properties plans to raise £15.7m through a placing and open offer at 100p, to partly fund its acquisition of the Battery Retail Park in Birmingham for £17.15m. Battery has a total of 103,000 square feet of retail space and a 4,000 square foot restaurant. The rental income gives an initial yield of 6.5 per cent.

• David Rowland, chairman of Lloyd's of London, and 44 of the insurance market's underwriters launched a series of US trade fairs and seminars with insurance brokers and risk managers in New York yesterday. The event signals the start of "Meet the Market 1996", which is designed to showcase the skills and capacity of the Lloyd's market. Lloyd's has been running "Meet the Market" roadshows in the US for three years and the chairman and his entourage will speak to 2,000 risk managers and brokers at presentations in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. Last year, Lloyd's US premium income was £2.6bn, accounting for about a third of the company's worldwide total.

 Time Warner has declined to offer space on its cable distribution system for the Fox television network's 24-hour cable news operation, to be launched in the US on 7 October. In a setback for Rupert Murdoch's Fox, Time Warner, which has 11.7 million subscribers to its system, has agreed to carry MSNBC, the nascent news service formed from a joint venture between NBC and Microsoft. Under the terms of the federal approval for the merger of Time Warner and Turner Broadcasting, the owner of CNN, Time Warner was obliged to carry at least one cable-news com-

 The ferocious campaign by Microsoft to catch up with Netscape in supplying PC users with a browser to explore the World Wide Weh has once again put it under the microscope of the US Justice Department. Microsoft, which has been the object of several anti-competitive investigations since 1993, confirmed that regulators were preparing to investigate complaints that it may be using its dominance of the PC operating systems market to push PC makers into pre-installing its new browser on to their machines instead of the Netscape browser. The Justice Department was spurred into action by complaints lodged by Netscape.

The bond débacle that forced California's Orange County into hankruptcy in 1994, following stunning losses of \$1.6bn, is still haunting the underwriter of the bonds, Merrill Lynch. Lawyers confirmed that Merrill Lynch had received notification from the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) that formal charges may be made against the firm and some of its employees alleging that insufficient disclosure was made to Orange County about the risks associated with the bonds when they were first issued. Neither the SEC nor Merrill Lynch would confirm that the notification had been sent, although a spokesman for the securities firm said: "We are confident our disclosure was proper." Orange County emerged from bankruptcy in June last year.

BRANCH INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS CURRENT INTEREST RATES

EFFECTIVE FROM 21 SEPTEMBER 1996 THESE ACCOUNTS ARE NO LONGER AVAILABLE TO NEW INVESTORS

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£5,000 - £9,999	210	•	1.68		£10,000 - £24,999	3.25	.7.30	160	163
£7 500 - 14,999	1.80		1.44	•	£50 · £9,999	0.50	0.20	0.40	0.40
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IMPORTANT NOTICE TO INVESTORS

West effect from 1 October 1996, the low belance charge of 23 per quarter, payable if an unrestment balance falls below CSO for six or more consecutive days, will be withdrawn.

NORTHERN ROCK

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falls below \$50 for six or more consecutive days, will be withdrawn.

Charges incurred during the period 1 July to 30 September will be made in the usual way on 15 October 1956.

Boots spends £115m on French skin-care firm

TOM STEVENSON City Editor

Boots Healthcare International, the over-the-counter medications arm of the chemists group, is expanding its Euro-pean operations with the £115m acquisition of one of France's leading skin-care product manufacturers.

BHI, whose products include Nurofen, Optrex and Strepsils, will pay cash for Laboratoires Latsia, owned by Roussel Uclaf, a subsidiary of Hoechst, the German chemicals and pharmaceuticals group.

Lutsia's main products include Lutsine, an anti-acne cream, and Onagrine, an anti-

ageing product.
With sales of Fr315m (£39.4m), Lutsia's two main products are market leaders in the French market. The acquiemploys more than 200, is part of BHI's strategy of hullding husinesses in each large European market in its core product categories of analgesics (Nuro-fen), cough medicines (Strep-sis) and skin-care (E45, Lutsine

and Onagrine). Boots, whose chairman is Sir Michael Angus, expects that following the deal sales in France will be about Fr460m (£57.5m), almost matching its UK turnover through its British subsidiary, Crookes Healthcare. The deal is also expected



sition of the company, which . Sir Michael Angus: expects French sales to reach Fr460m

main product areas. Analgesics and skin-care products will ac-count for more than 60 per cent of BHI sales after the deal.

Barry Clare, managing director of BHI, said: "This agreement gives BHI critical mass in France, access to products with significant potential in other major markets, and sharper focus on our core business. Together Lutsia and BHI will create a formidable business.

"Lutsia has already shown it

to sharpen BHI's focus on its can create a new product sector by the identification and exploitation of demand for medically effective skin-care products.

Laboratoires Lutsia has a 7 per cent market share of French skin-care products which are sold only through pharmacies. In France consumers have direct access to consultations with dermatologists, who play a much more prominent role in product recommendation than

Bridgeman warns against monopolies

MICHAEL HARRISON

John Bridgeman, the director general of fair trading, yester-day delivered his clearest warning that he would not permit the creation of national champions if it hampered competition in

domestic markets. His comments were seen as a warning shot across the bows of British Airways, which seeks than the benefits of low prices approval for its alliance with American Airlines, and Bass, which proposes to take over Carlsberg Tetley to create Britain's biggest brewing group. Speaking at a conference at

Keele University, Mr Bridge-man dismissed the argument

that Britain needed to create

strong monopolistic businesses at home to compete in international markets.

"Firms which are subject to vigorous competition in their domestic markets are far more likely to be effective competitors abroad than those which are not subject to such pres-sures," he said. "The benefits of competition are indeed wider

and high-quality goods.

"Effective competition also provides the main stimulus for . innovation, technological or otherwise, and provides the most powerful and enduring basis for the international competitiveness of UK firms. "Equally, firms which are home.

subject to competitive pressures are most likely to seek to gain competitive advantage through product or process in-novation or through the development of new products.

He said that firms which did not face competition were under no pressure to cut prices. improve quality and service or innovate: "A strong competition policy aimed at maintaining domestic rivalry... is one of the pillars on which our economic

future depends." Three months ago, the President of the Board of Trade, Ian Lang, warned he would not tolerate national champions if they undermined competition at

OFFSHORE ACCOUNTS **REVISED INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE FROM 21 SEPTEMBER 1996**

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It looks as though BTR has won the argument. The new sell-not-buy strategy outlined by chief executive Ian Strachan when he presented the crucial half-year results has reversed the share slide and put much needed life into the 1995/96 warrants.

With the shares, on a dull day, up 2p to 282.5p, the warrants, down to 3p last month, put on 1.5p to 19p. The exercise price is 258p; they are back in the

For BTR the warrants are important. If fully exercised over the next few weeks they would produce an inflow of £240m, a welcome addition to the coffers of the hard-pressed conglomerate which is making provisions of £622m against disposals and slashing its yearly dividend.

For years the congloms swept all before them. First Hanson, now admitting defeat and breaking up, and then BTR found their glory days had

The rest of the stock market again drifted away from the seemingly elusive 4,000 points target for the FT-SE 100 index. Footsie ended 10.2 points low-

Ahead of the September futures expiry there was a rush of activity with Footsie climbing 19.8. Once the witching hour had ticked by the usual sell-off took place. It was estimated that much

of the day's 744.6 million share turnover was generated by the futures expiry.

The reduced influence of

New York was again underlined as another strong Dow Jones Average performance was ig-

The market got the big takeover bid it so desperately de-sired - not Zeneca, but Lloyds Abbey Life. The deal, which will value LAL, at about £4.4bn did not, however, in the short term,

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN Stock market reporter

of the year

make much of an impact.

Lloyds TSB, already claiming tack from Glaxo Wellcome 62.6 per cent of LAL, is plan-would be a distinct possibility. ning to offer a mixture of cash and shares. LAL gained 28.5p to 620.5p; at one time the shares were up 40p. Lloyds TSB fell 12.5p to 378.5p. The proposed deal rubbed off onto Legal & General, up 18p to

Zeneca enjoyed another busy session with the shares slipping 15p to 1,575p. Many investors remain convinced that bid action will soon develop with Roche, the Swiss

group, still the favourite to If Roche does start knocking

The Regent Pacific attack on Hambros, the merchant bank, nudged the shares 2p higher to 262.5p. The Far Eastern breakup call lifted Hambro Coun-

Insurance Services, also controlled by the bank, was unchanged at 91.5p. Asda lost a further 1p to 103.5p as the parliamentary ambitions of chief executive Archie Norman were coo-

firmed: Signet, formerly Rat-

trywide, the estate agent where

the bank has a 52 per cent in-

terest, 5.5p to 95; the shares

were 30p in October. Hambro

the failure of its jewellery shops

Mirror Group gained 9.5p to 222p as Panmure Gordon and Salomon Brothers circulated buy recommendations.

Heavy trading occurred in Rentokil with one deal of more than 7.5 million shares going through; the price dipped 9.5p to 432.5p.

BTG, following New York meetings, surged 197.5p to a 2.217.5p peak but many of the bio-babes wilted with Scotia off 24p to 613.5p and ML Labo-

Alpha Airports edged forward 2.5p to 112p, with some chunky lines of stock going through. An asset sale or the takeup of Granada's 25 per cent interest are the stories flying around. A Canadian group is said to he keen to buy into the company. Tom Cobleigh, the pubs chain, put on 4.5p to 233p. 100p.

ners, fell 2.75p to 23p following ahead of the expected bid, probably from Yates Brothers Vine Lodges. An upbeat trading statement lifted Greenalls pubs group 14.5p to 579p.

The cider "twins" had a sour ession. HP Bulmer lost 19p to 517.5p and Matthew Clark's remorseless decline continued with a 7.5p fall; to 350p. The other quoted cider maker, Merrydown, remains blissfully out of the firing line, thanks to its involvement in alcopops.

Atlas Converting, an engineer, jumped 105p to 757.5p following a 51 per cent profits gain and an upbeat trading statement Pan Andean Resou rose 8p to 135.5p ahead of the expected Bolivian drilling report.

Edge Properties firmed Ip to 107.5p; it is buying Battery Retail Park, Birmingham, for £17.15m and raising £15.7m through a placing and open of-fer of 16.3 million shares at

Share Price Data

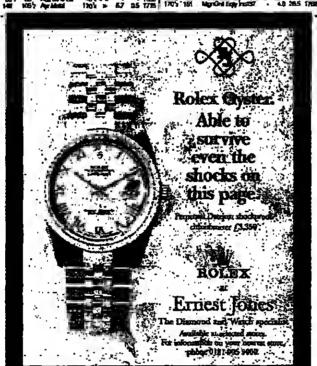
Mosaic Investments, the cash-rich vehicle of financier David Williams, is thought to be near to spreading its wings. Mr Williams has sold most of the group's rag-bag of interests and it now commands cash worth 38p a share. The price moved ahead 2.5p to 43.5p as some detected muscles were being flexed ahead of a deal.

TAKING STOCK

Athelney, an AIM invest-ment, held at 64.5p as a split between its sponsoring stock-broker, Dunbar Boyle & Kingsley, and its managing director, Robin Boyle,

Mr Boyle, who created the trust as a vehicle for investing in small companies, has been custed from DBK. Athelney is "reviewing" its contractual uts with the stockbroker which includes management of the trust's portfolio.

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RACE FOR THE

No room at the top for Hill claims Ecclestone

Motor racing

DERICK ALLSOP reports from Estorit

Damon Hill reaches out for the world drivers' championship in tomorrow's Portuguese Grand Prix here knowing he has no bope of holding on to it. As all roads to top teams closed to him, he was advised to quit or become minder to his great rival's little brother.

The choice was presented by Bernie Ecclestone, Formula One's impresario and a man who has a handle on these things. Even Ecclesione has been unable Williams-Renault, into a drive which would give him a chance

of retaining the title. That leaves as the Englishman's best option Jordan-Peugeot, who yesterday confirmed one of their seats for next season would go to Ralf Schumacher, the 21-year-old sibling of Michael. The irony of Hill partnering the new wunder-kind from Kerpen would be a delightful twist to the sport's rcest rivalry of recent seasons. Ecclestone, relishing the irony, as well as the commercial

potential, said: "Damon could win the championship and retire. He might have to if all he wants is the chance to defend it, because unfortunately it looks as though be's not going

to get that chance.

The only thing he could do at Jordan is belp the team and young Schumacher. He would have to accept he might not be able to win a race, let alone the championship. But if it means sacrificing any

chance of the championship, he would be giving something back to the sport. Williams have won a lot of things while he's been \$7m (£4.5m) this year and to

he's the best after Michael Schumacher.

Ecclestone could not resist a mischievous slant to the younger Schumacher's move to Jordan, "Damon could be doing what his own brother didn't want to do for him. Michael could have got him in at Ferrari but didn't.

As Michael points out: "It would be unfair for Ralf to be with me at Forrari at this stage of his career. It is his first season and he needs to learn. Maybe later we can be together."
Hill, believed to be earning

next season, would probably have to settle for a maximum of \$3m at Jordan. Also in the bid-

ding are Stewart-Ford. McLaren-Mercedes and Ferno job for him and Benetton-Renault have been quoted \$18m to buy Jean Alesi out of his contract, a figure that unsurprisingly appears to be prov-ing prohibitive.

Hill, beaten to the championship by the older Schumacher for the past two seasons, said: "I thought the world could bear only one SchuI didn't know he had a brother till earlier this year."

Brazil's Rubens Barrichello has been released by Jordan and Martin Brundle has been offered work as their reserve dri-ver, adviser and ambassador next season.

Against the backdrop of this bectic market place, Hill is completing his preparations for the day that ought to mark his championship success. Unless Jacques Villeneuve, his teammate, beats him by four points, the contest will be over. Hill, second to Schumacher

in practice yesterday, was un-happy with the performance of his car but then Villeneuve managed only fifth fastest time. PORTHGUESE GROWN PRIX (Estartly Proceed to times: IM Schumacher (Sch.) Farmi Junio 23.5546ec (av. 11.7.405mahl; 2 D HII (SB.) Williams-Ramaukt 12.4.281; 3 U Katayama (Lapan) Tymai-Yamaha 12.4.235; 4 E Ivina (SB.) Farmi 12.4.716; 5 J Villenause (Carl Villena Farmaukt 12.4.764; 8 J Mes (F) Barnet ton-Ramaukt 12.4.803; 7 G Barger (Aut Online) 12.5.24; 9 M Haldiran (F) Molaret on-Ramaukt 12.4.832; 3 M Salo (Fr) (Junio 12.5.503; 10 H-H Frenzen (Ger) Sauber-Ford 12.5.567; 11 R Barnetello (Bay) Lordan-Paugnot 12.5.592; 12 M Brundle (SB) (Jordan 12.5.105; 13 P Dintz (Bm) (Ligher-Molaret 12.5.505; 13 P Dintz (Bm) (Ligher-Molaret 15.5.505; 13



RACE FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP: Leicestershire consolidate their position as Kent fall by wayside and Surrey lose time in rain

Lord's called over negative bowling

DEREK PRINGLE

reports from Leicester Middlesex 190; Leics 381-8

There are many ways to finish off a prev at this time of year and Leicestershire, perhaps mellowed by some watery sunshine over Grace Road, seemed content to slowly throttle theirs, devoting most of the day to oc-

cupying the crease. Only Phil Simmons managed to cut loose with some blistering strokeplay in his unbeaten 95, before bad light intervened an hour before the close. By then Leicestershire had reached a lead of 191 that is surely enough to guarantee them the draw they need to clinch the title.

It was by no means an elegant innings, but then Simmons has never been a dainty artist. He was off the mark with a top-edged hook for six off Angus Fraser,

hitting two more in his 120-ball stay. With the Championship at stake aesthetics sometimes have to be sacrificed in favour of consolidating a winning position, particularly when your opponent's left-arm spinner persistently bowls into the rough outside the

batsman's leg stump, Apart from the fact that Kent have now fallen from the Championship race - a point reached when Leicestershire secured their second batting point at 250 - this odiously negative tactic provided the major talking point of the day, as Phil Tufnell sent down all but seven of his 26 overs from over the wicket.

Moreover, the umpires had to seek clarification from Lord's following an inquiry by Simmons as to whether the Middlesex wicketkeeper Keith Brown - who had positioned himself two feet outside leg stump to take the ball constituted a third fielder behind square on the leg side. That is

edifying part of the game."
It is difficult not to disagree, gloomy outlook

all of the square. The conse- amount of fielders behind square quence was that a possible to one, but only when the bowler

Certainly Middlesex used the

in the game since the early 1960's. The answer came some 40 minutes later, once Tim Lamb. the chief executive elect of the Test and County Cricket Board, had consulted umpire Nigel Plews. Mike Gatting had spent the morning substituting for Brown and Tufnell had shrewd-

ter lunch before howling. "Having spoken to umpire Plews," said Lamb, who sent his message via the Leicestershire coach, Jack Birkenshaw, "we are of the same opinion that the wicketkeeper is not a fielder so long as his first position is to intercept the ball should the baisman miss it."

It waited until Brown's return af-

He then added, presumably keen to aim a critical barb at this negative scourge sweeping the modern game. Both the TCCB and the ICC [International Cricket Council] feel that bowling into the rough outside the batsman's leg-stump needs to be addressed. As it stands it is perfectly legitimate. But it is not an

although finger spinners every-where, will bemoan the lack of assistance given to them by the unyielding nature of the surfaces they tend to play upon. An easy solution, might be to limit the

Whitaker, whose stolid 89 was the building block for Simmons' fusillade, ended as the seam, even if at times they Tufnell's sole victim, treading on his stumps as he tried to sweep the ball from behind his legs.

James Whitaker, the Leicestershire captain, attempts to sweep Middlesex's Phil Tufnell yesterday but ends up hitting his wicket.

Surrey face up to

DAVID LLEWELLYN

reports from The Oval Worcs 134-3 v Surrey

The day was not quite pointless day and nothing could get with Surrey picking up one for underway yesterday until just knocking over three Worces- after one o'clock. tershire wickets but there was still an aimless feel to proccedings during the 163 minutes look hrightened, before captain play possible. The chances of Surrey lifting the County Championship have now all hut trickled away down the storm drains. the fourth wicket in 143 balls Having lost the first day

situation was exacerbated by the groundstaff, not anticipating rain and therefore not covering hour's play was lost on Thurs-

Surrey then reduced Worcestershire to 32 for 3 and the out-Tom Moody and Reuben Spiring hlew up a storm with an unbroken 102-run partnership for and bad light did the rest, keepcompletely to the weather, the ing everyone off after tea.

Gloucestershire 241

tactic to try and frustrate the home side, after two early lbws had been negated by a 138-run partnership between James Whitaker, and Aftab Habib.

Lynch dents Kent's ambitions Gooch heads good Monte Lynch came in at 69-3. With his heavy bat he began to

HENRY BLOFELD reports from Bristol Kent 154 and 21-1

With the main prize now beyond their reach, Kent are still aimmg for second place in the Championship, which hrings with it a reward of £30,000. But they made life harder for themselves when they allowed the last three Gloucestershire wickets to

add 67, taking their lead to 87. The low bounce was not as noticeable as it had been on the first day, although the Kent seam bowlers were all extremely accurate and found movement off bowled too wide of the off stump. For all that, batting was nev-

play a series of dismissive, almost disdainful, strokes. Lynch drove, glanced, flicked away off his pads, pulled and forced the ball through the covers off the hack foot. There were nine delightful fours in his 54, which took only 60 balls. The first Gloucestershire wick-

et was a long time in falling, which was partly because of the line of the bowlers and partly because Nick Trainor and Matthew Windows made up for any technical deficiencies with an admirable determination. They survived into the 29th over before Windows played back to Martin McCague and was caught by Carl.

Hooper at first slip. Trainor and Andrew Symonds took the score to 53 when er easy until the 38-year-old Symonds was caught behind try-

pick of the bowlers, to third man. Bobby Dawson followed soon afterwards, bowled when playing across Headley.

Lynch and Trainor then added 72 in 19 overs. Trainor's vigil ended when he tried to turn a wide hall from Min Patel to leg and half overbalanced. Steve Marsh took the ball far down the leg side and as he could not ball against them with Trainor still out of his ground.

Lynch was run out shortly afterwards before another curious dismissal, when Jack Russell tried to pull out of the way of a short one from Headley and was bowled off his visor. Mike Smith and Martin Ball stretched Gloucestershire's lead to 87 with some robust strokeplay at the end.

day for openers

Another day, another Graham Gooch century and he only left the crease to accompany his father to hospital for a series of tests at lunch with his score on 170 - his eighth century of the season and the 128th of his career - at Chelmsford yesterday.

The 43-year-old hit 27 fours d a six in what could prove to be his last innings for Essex. Although he has agreed to a new one-year contract, he has indicated he will give up playing if he succeeds Ray Illingworth as England's chairman of selectors.

When Glamorgan replied to Essex's 367, Ashley Cowan removed Steve James and Hugh Morris in his first five overs, but David Hemp and Matthew

for 2 before had light hrought play to a close.

Derbyshire's hopes of finishing off Durham in two days was denied. After establishing a first-innings lead of 114 Derbyshire reduced Durham to 138 for 5. The opener, Stewart Hutton, then passed 50 for the batting for 246 minutes for an unbeaten 85 and when had light ended play early, his side were 92 runs ahead.

Yorkshire's Michael Vaughan equalled his career-best with 183 against Northamptonshire. The 21-year-old opener struck a six and 27 fours to help the visitors to 478 all out. Northamptonshire reached 83 for 2 in reply when Maynard carried the total to 55 bad light stopped play.

UOTES OF THE

looked in the mirror and Ripley, former England No 8,

Adams, the England and Arsenal defender, confesses to being an alcoholic.:

Friendship and loyalty the right result and go out have been smashed. Andy for a few drinks afterwards. I didn't like what I saw. Thony on the state of British rugby. It seemed to work better

Ron Atkinson on Coventry's sports presenter. My team talk was very simple. Let's just have an old-fashioned match, get

Vinnie Jones is just a lis just as wet. He is a jelself-hyped personality. Gary : lyfish without a sting. Vin-Lineker, former England nie Jones responds. captain and now a BBC

win over Leeds last Satur- . Lineker has the charis-

TODAY ma of a jellyfish - and he Football

Matches not on pools coupons: Annual Stated 3.0 (where stated 6M VAIDCHALL CONFERENCE: Stormsgrow Stoogh: Northwich v Macdesfield; Tellord v Alt **In-form King**

good work **Equestrianism**

keeps up the

GENEVIEVE MURPHY reports from Blenheim

Mary King has made a fine start in her hid to gain a fourth major success in the course of four weeks, having ridden an excellent dressage test yesterday on King Solomon III. She now holds the lead at the Blenheim International Horse Trials with last year's winner, Pippa Funnell, 1.6 points behind her on

The Tourmaline Rose. King has recently won the Scottish Championship, the Burghley Horse Trials and the "Solly has a lovely tempera-

d'Angers in 1994 and first at Complegne last year.

Mark Todd has moved into

joint third place on Vambi Charboniere. He is now on the same score as the two overnight leaders, Philip Surl and Milla Clayton-Bailey, who both made an unexpected appearance in the dressage arena during yesterday morning's coffee break. It transpired that whoever marked the card of the televi-

so they had asked for a repeat

by: Wick Academy v Huntly.

SOUBMOFF ROSH LEARUS Pressier Division: Colstaine v Aris: Crusaders v Genston; Gientoran v
Cisconelle: Portadoren v Linfeld. First Divissions Balyldore v Omagh Town; Bangor v Ballymens; Disbetry v Cannals; Newry v Lume.

LEARUE OF VALES: Bangor City Orton Fany; Casness v Connaes Bay; Connattion Town v Rink; Conness v Connaes Bay; Connattion Town v Rink; Conness v Connaes Bay; Connattion Town v Rink; Conness Quay v Combiner Conney v Abelgebyth; Holywel
v Newbown; Inter Cable-Tel v Rink; Town; Webshpool v Bany Town.

Slough, Northwich v Maccienteic, Tellord v Altrarchura.

SIGN LEAGUE Premier Division: Enfeit v Sutton Utd. Plast Division: Abergion Town v Cheshern Inst. ed.; Addrastor Town v Whyleladie, Baron Roses v Leyton Pernant; Basingspile Town v Tooting & Michael Intend; Berkmanted Town v Mickey, Copdon v Wolangham Town; Hampson v Librarige; Manishman Haritad v Bilenary Town; Markow v Carasy Island; Wiston & Herstram v Beginer Regis Town; Worthing v Thame United. Because Divisions Bedind Syretis; Caller Row & Romford V Whenhoe Town v Mempolaten Police; Backinell Town v Challord Sy Petrs; Caller Row & Romford V Whenhoe Town; Collegiton Town v Benstead Athletic, Legiton Town v Horston; Benst (Tabuy v Cheshart; Warev v Horston; Warnbley v Borfarg; Withom Town v Harystond Town. This Division: Benithe Rown v Southal (Camberley Town v Leves; Eponn & Benefit Vingabury Town; Flackley; Herfor Town v Wingsto & Flackley; Herfor Town v Wingston & Flackley; Herfor Court, Flaton v Wingston P A v Great Haward of Town; Flaton v Lincoln Hursed; Hargings Town v Rothings on Visions (Japan v Atheron L.R.; Droysden v Forsiey Celtur; Eastwood Town v Wannigon Town; Flaton v Lincoln Hursed; Hargings Town v Action United; Lagits v Stockstoning PS; Natherfield v Rodelife Bornagh; Whitley Bey V Congleton Four V Workings v V Rodeling Down v Gertina.

DR MARTIENS LEAGUE Premier Division: Now-

DR MARTENS LEADUE Premier Division: New

DR MARTTENS LEABLE Premier Division: Nowport ARC v Addred Tours: Numestorn v Exement

3 N. Middled Divisioner Bettorn Tours v Corby Tours;
Grantham Tourn v Breathern Little Hunsley Tourn v
Dudley Tourn: Messon Tourn v R of Waterlag, Moor Green v Raunts Tourn Pager Rangers v Redditch

Lit; Rothwell Tourn v Besborth Little; Shesshed Dynamo v Stoutholder: Staffood Rangers v Solifual Bout;
Tamanorth v Sultton Coldination Tourn; Eath & Behedert

v Fact Tourn v Sultton

Coldination London v Sauthern Divisioner Besting for Tourn vorty

Prost Sorten v Waterlooviller; Havent Tourn v

Ceredon Tourn Mangele v Withing Yourn; Naveport

DW v Dartloot, Troutnings Tourn Busington Tourn;

Weston-S Mens v Toutnings Angels: Weymouth v

Circonester Tourn; Yate Tourn v St Laonants.

Wesson-Staff Name v Toutnings Angels: Weymouth v

Circonester Tourn; Yate Tourn v St Laonants.

Chemicater Tomr, Yate Town v St. Lacranta.

WHISTOMLEAD MENT LEAGUE Fleet Division: Beckerham Town v Woodward Town; Contribute Deckerham Town v Woodward Town; Contribute V History, Follostone Insects v Generatich Brouge; Farmess v Heme Bay, Landsmood v Carthestury Cay, Remediate v Deal Town; Sheppey United v Crockerhitt; Stede Green v Chattham Town; Turbridge Wells v Thamesmead Town.

1844 ISPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE Pleader Divisions Ford Sports v Deaborough v Hobbach v M Blackstone; St Neoth v Cagerhors; Spatisting v Respont Pagnet; Stembard v Poton; Corby v Kengston; Standard v Poton; Corby v Kengston; Woodon v N Spence;

1845 ISPORT Wellingborough v Ejmesbury; Woodon v N Spence;

1846 ISPORT SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE Fleet Division; Whatshawk v Esstoburne Town; Wick v Langhey Sports.

UNGLET SINSSEX, COUNTY LEAGUE First Deviators: Whitsheak v Estitiourn Elour, Wick v Langing Sports.
FEDERATION BREWISTY NORTHERN LEAGUE First. Division: Chester-le-Street v Essingtor; Crook. Town v Stocktor; Durham Cry v Conset: Guarbor cugh Town v Morgath Town; Murton v Wincham RTIL; Newceate v Bedington Terriers. Seahern Red Star v Shifton; Tow Law Town v South Shields; Wast Auckard v Dureton Federator; Whitey Town v Billingham Synthonia.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premiler Division; Armiticipe Welfam v Malitoy, Belger Town v Leveskigs: Brigs Town v Ratheld Limited; Hustonell Town v Haffeld Malon v Pickering Town; Perindrich Code v Angold Town; Settly Town v Desert Town; Sheffleds v Geestinoughton Welfam; Theckley v Dendy by Unified.

Sheribeid v Geesthoughton Westere Theoriety v Densby United.

NOTETH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE Flore Divinional
Burscough v Altherton Colleges: Derwen v Gloscop
North Ent; Eastwood Handry v St. Helens Tomer, Holer Gid Boys v Newceste Flower, Missely v Catherine;
Pervist v Cradetorin; Person: v Busingood Provist,
Provist v Cradetorin; Person: v Busingood City v Bootics: Trefford v Klangove Athletin.

INTERLINIX EMPRESS ampti-AND ALLIANCE:
Blooatch Town v Bowerel; Baldmere St. Micraels v
Personer Town; Helesaven Hemises v Bellemat, Hendrick;
Altherity West Mindred Police; Rryperskey Victoria v Bridgingth Town; Rocester v Circlery United:
Sandhell Bronz, gh v Sporehalt; Shydnir Town v Pelsandhell Bronz, gh v Sporehalt; Shydnir Town v Pelsall Villo; Standard Town v Chaseroure; Willenhall Town

WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE

Rugby Union
3.0 unless stated
MITER-PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS: Munister v
Connacts Lat Corks; Likiter v Levisler (at Raven: https://doi.org/10.1001/j.j.)

Connachs (at Cork); Dates v Leroster (at Revenhal, Bellast).

COURABE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP National League Oess Bristol v harfequent; Cloudeser v Brist (2,15); London Irsh v Sairacers, Rottonal League Two: Best Northampton v Ornet; West Hartispool v Saracers, National League Two: Bestimor v Rachmond ; Couerry v Walesfeld; London Scottsh v Walesfoot; Moseley v Nottingham, Nacional League Threes Excer v Harnogate; r-jide v Walesla, Haward v Blach Leaft, Rotterham v Rotterhal, Holland v Rotterhal (1,16); Rotship Park v London Welsh; Warriedale v Leeds, National League For North Emmigram/Schmidt v Stoken-1-Irent: Rendal v Manchester, Lethield v Numeron-Preston Grasshoppers v Bristled; Sandal v Agostors; Stourbridge v Wordester; Winnington Park v High Woomber Chestenham v North Wolsham; Hentley v Camberley; Metopoistan Pelice v Asteone; Weston-super-Mare v Toberd, WELSH McTitorial League For Castification (2,30); Langui v Sacrassa (2,30); Duncert v Portspond (2,30); Lengui v Sacrassa (2,30); Newtonic v Castifi (2,30); Teochy v Caerphily (2,30); Bonyrean v UMC. (Cariff Inst) (2,30); Cross Keys v Llandovery (2,30); Honder v Stoudgarias (2,30); South Woles Police v Astrodovery (2,30); Bonyrean v UMC. (2,30); South Woles Police v Astrodovery (2,30); Bonyrean v UMC. (2,30); South Woles Police v Astrodovery (2,30); Bonyrean v UMC. (2,30); South Woles Police v Astrodovery (2,30); Bonyrean v UMC. (2,30); South Woles Police v Astrodovery (2,30).

SRU TEMBERS CHAMPIONSEP Premier League
Fast Divisions Boroughmur v Meiroschenschender
Wasschiens, Herots PV Startig County, Jed-Fürest v Curre. Second Divisions Eggie v Heist, Glasgow H/N v Estratugh Asads, Gals v Dunder HSPPWest of Scotland v Glasgow Asads. Third Divisions:
Hritatigh v Masseburgh; Peetiks v Winnsmock; Preston Lodge v Glasgow Scuthern; Streven's Metwile
PV v Selonk, Pondt Division: Ay v Haddington;
Constroptine v Grangemouth; Hillhedd/Jordensif v
Gensches; Langsofm v Genfortans.

Start SC CER Second month Absolution Green Stars. Constrophine v Grangemouth, Hillhebet/Jordannial v Genrichines, Langhoff in Genforsans.

Saeut, ES CEIP Second transf. Genrichines Steel vS. Boespher, Abertian v Pendinoles, Abertian v Meserfordwest, Amman (or v Gerngors, Ammanford v Blasmenor, Beetina v Meserse, Quinselfert v Blasmenor, Beetina v Meserse, Quinselfert v St. Daud s; Brichgove v Pendandid Baeriau, Generit v Abertiant v Reinselfert Sports, Bridgend Arthetic v Briggert V Brigger

NATIONNIA. LEAGUE First Obtained Beaston v Hull (1.2.0): Blueherta v Indian Gymbrania (1.2.0): Browleavia (2.0): Browleavia (2.0): Browleavia (2.0): Browleavia v Oxford Hewiss (2.0): City of Parismouth v Oxford University (1.30): Costyx V Sheffield (1.0): Edgeston v St Albaris (12.30): Rechands v Stoupport (Cordono School 1.0): Gloucester City v Trains; (1.2.0): Harieston Magpies v Warnington (1.0).

WOMEN'S SOUTH First Division: City of Persmouth v Tutse Hit; Dutwich v Southernster; Winch-winchester v Hompsmed & Westminster; Winch-more Hit v Rending, Westling v Horsham. WOMEN'S WEST Premiter; Boumemouth v Win-home Wayteres; Chelenham v Exeter; Colvail v Leomister; Yate v Redand. WOMEN'S EAST Premier: Ashtord v Cambridg City, Ipswich v Harleston Magpies; Sevenoalis Bury St Edmunds; Welwyn Garden City v Bedey

Basketball BUDWESER LEAGUE Derby Storm v Hamel Royals (7,30); Leiesster Roles v Cyclail Paleos (7,30); Brimngram Bulles v Sheffeld Sharks (7,30); Tharnes Valley Tigers v Warthing Bears (8,0).

WOMEN'S NORTH First Division: Blackburn

Speedway
PREMER LEAGUE: Cox

Other sports EQUESTRIANGER: Stenhern Horse Trais.
60LP: Solin Cub (Chepstow); Loch Lomand World TEMNIS: Davis Cup Euro-African zune group two, Britan v Egyst (Wirobedon); LTA Satelius (Brien-head); Silk Cut Challenge i Queen's Club, London).

TOMORROW Football rifa world cup European Qualifying group six

SCOTASH COCA-COLA CUP Deutsermline v Rangers (7.45)
PAI MARP LADER NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier
Division: Boy Wanderes v Boternars (3.15) Cox.
Cry v Rvm Harps C.(D), Langues Shield Northerm
Sections Montegran Und v Athlone Town (2.30).

Rugby Union (3.D Unies stated)
COURAGE CLUBS' CHAMPAGNISHIP National
Laugha One: Worps v Leinester (at Lottus Rood).
WELSH NATIONAL LEABUE First Division: Elow
Vale v Newport (2,30).

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEASUE Premier Division:
Cation v Hightown 12.2-30; Doncestev V Topic
II.2-30; leason's Staten Canada Ute II.2-9; Script
v Beisern (secreter 2.0); First Divisione Stacknet
sundershare 12.0; Cereinshay Beraford
Swithershare 112.0; Otton v Bustrants I.2.0; Winbeison v Christopies Bradens II.2.0; Europhison v Divisione: Earling v Wisten II.2.0; Doughtorough Students v Shareous II.2.0; Six Albares v West Winney I.2.0;
Vermouth II.0; Six Albares v West Winney I.2.0.

Baskethall

Speediway
PREMER LEAGUE Eastroume v Swindon (3.30);
Scottish Morsen's v Peterborough (6.30),
CONSPERIABLE LEAGUE Buddin v Bervick (3.0);
Linitingow v Peterborough (2.30).

Other sports SQUESTREAMSSE: Bienneim Horse Trails (end). IOLE: Softeim Cup (Chapstos); Loch Lomand World Internet of Chapstos) INTERPORT (Classipo).

MOTOR PACING: Aum Trader RAC Touring Car Charponship Glands Hetelt.

TENNES: Dave Cup Euro-Aincen zone group bree: Brisan v Egor (Manufedon); LTA Schelle Girkenhadd): Silk Cut Challenge (Queen's Gub,

Major football fixtures and poozs check, page 26

Britannic Assurance **County Championship** Dorbyskire v Durham

5-60:
DEBEYSHIRE - First Immigs
Chamigh: 1.36 for 2!
C J Adards of Lightwood b Betts
T J G O'Gorman low b Betts
T J G O'Gorman low b Betts
C M Week to b Saggers
'A M Kraken not out
P A J DeFretas S Cox
A J Hards give b Brown
M J Dean of Coulingstood 5 Brown
M J Dean of Coulingstood 5 Brown
De Malcolm and out
Exchang (3.3 w.6)
Total (67 awars) # 3-140 4-180 5-211 6-216 7-245 Sending: Brown 14-3-55-2; Betts 17-1-69-4; Walter 21-4-46-0; Seggers 9-0-60-2; Cox 6-1-23-1

25-1
DilithiAM — Second Innings
S lezzar not out
16 Morris c O'Gorman b Malcotm
14 Distry b Harns
17 A Distry b Harns
18 A Recebery & Admins is Deam
19 Collingwood of Frideric is Malcotm
10 G C Liegatecood o Richlen b Malcotm
10 G C Liegatecood o Richlen b Malcotm Number 18 Awares Nation 16-2-80-3: Definite Routing the data; Nation 16-2-80-3: Definite Science 14-5-48-1; Dean 8-4-13-1; Usuplime: J C Baiderstone and J N Harris.

Essex mon total -

S G Lee 5 Person
P J Progrand c Shee b Date
P J Progrand c Shee b Date
R J Rob-ins o Shee b Date
V C not o Cooker b Date
A P Covern four b Date

P A Corp., A Date, IA D Store, R O B A Copier, S I Water, O T Perion.
P desire Rept 7-2-31-Course 7-1
D 5-0-8-0
Rept Rept R Main

CRICKET SCOREBOARD Gloucestershire v Kent

4-50).

6.00(ESTERSHIRE - Piret Innings (Overnight 9 for 0)

N J Trainor at Nursh b Pasel ...

M G N Windows c Hooper b McCaglue ...

A Symonds a Massh b Headley ...

R I Desson b Headley ...

M W Alleyne c Llong b Pasel ...

R I C Facssel b Headley ...

R Daves a Hooper b Headley ... Total (88.3 pers) 241 Feft: 1.27 2-53 3-68 4-141 5-153 6-174 7-174 8-195 9-216. 19 3-5-50.3 Headity 27-8-65-& 195 9-216. Bowling: McCague 19.3-\$-50-3; Headity 27-8-65-4; Extram 25-8-70-0; Remang 6-3-10-0; Patel 11-

4-33-2 KENT - Second Innings M V Plenting is Smith ----M J Wester not out M J Wester not out To best: GR Cowdrey, TR Ward, C (Hooper, M J Norte: M A Eatham, *1S A Marsh, M M Petal, D W Rowling (to data): Walsh 4-2-5-0; Smith 4-0-16-

L Umpiress D J Constant and T E Jesty. Hampshire v Notis SOUTHWANTON: Hampshire (4pts) have declared at 513 for 4 in their first lamings against Not-tinghamatine (1).

tinghamalaha (1).
Hampshire euon toss
HAMPSHIRE – Picat Innings
(Overage 22.3 for 2)
15 Lovey Cours & Attons
- R A Smith Archer & Bosen
- W 5 Kendal not out
- 14 1/4 Armes not out
- 14 1/4 Armes not out At 23 (182) Mr. 1522)

Fortras (B1B vt. 152)

Fortras (B1B vt.

rest G I Burgess and V A Holder. Leicestershire y Middlesex All Management (A).

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Fall (cont): 2-36 3-66 4-204 5-242 6-253 7-343 8-360 8-330. Te bet: A D Mudally. Bonding (to date): Frasor 28-5-91-1; Fay 24-3-87-3; Turnen 28-4-89-1; Johnson 19-2-57-2: 100 5-1-10-1, rest B Leadbeauer and P Wiley. Northants v Yorkshire NORTHAMPTOR: Morthemphorethire (2pts), with eight first-lenings wickets standing, are 395 runs beting Yorkshire (4). Yorkshire wor loss

n J Blakey b Penberthy
D Gough c R J Baley b Penberthy
G M Hamston b Penberthy
C E W Sakenwood c 478. Score at 120 overs: 414 to 5. Bouling Taylor 21-3-96-1; innes 25-3-79-3; Em-busy 25-7-94-0; Perteathy 23.4-6-92-5; Score 22-6-64-0; Watton 9-1-29-1. Felt 1-60 2-94.
To bee T C Waters, A L Penterby, J E Shburg,
K J Inten, 17 M B Balley, J P Taylor, J F Brown.
Bendling the deviat Gough 10-1-45-1; SAssessed
5-0-17-0; Hamilton 6-1-2-9-1.
Symphose B Dudleston and A B T Whitehead.

Surrey v Worcestershire In mote fact connect agency connects worky won toes
WORKERSHERBHIRE — Flest kenings
7 S Carris by b M P Bicknell —
W P C Westen b Bergaran —
G A High c M P Bicknell b Julian —
T M Manufacture of the connects of the connect Filter 1-6 2-32 3-32.
To bett V S Schrist, D A Lesthendale, TS ! Rhades, R K Braghouth, P A Thomas, S W K Etc.
Booding to date: M P Schrist 21-4-23-1; Benjaron 11-3-33-1; Justin 8-1-37-1; A ! Microsof 6-1-21-Q; B C Holicolde 4-0-19-0.
Supplyon 1 Parlament 1-ZI-O: B C Holicolie 4-O-19-O.
SURREN; D J Bichner, M A Busther, "IA J Stenerr, G P Thosps, Nachsen Stahd, A J Holicolie, A
D Brosen, B P Jusen, M P Bichner, B C Holicolie,
J E Bengamen, Linguiste, Linguiste,
Linguiste, K E Pairner and G Sherr.

Sussex v Somerset HOVE Summer (Apts), with all second larings wide-ets steeding, are 150 mms behind Somecast (II). ets transcop ----Susses wor tos \$US\$EX - First lookings !A R Caddex 5-58, S Lae 4-52:
SomeDest - First landings
Ourright 45 for 11 at 10 minute
Ourright 45 for 11 at 10 minute
P 0 Books the E Salker;
R 1 headen it West it Salker;
S 1 at 2 knows it Princip
S 1 at 2 knows it Princip
R 1 furnit mit GM
A P Cadeoux - Greenfact it Salker;
IN 1 furnit mit GM
IN 1 G) When I Company 5 Instance
Extrem C1 D4 of 1+13

100 | 100 6, 82 occup

100 | 100 6, 82

Fell (compt : 75 3-87 4-87 5-295 6-305 T-330 8-330 9-331 Bowling: Dizies: 18-0-88-3; Law 9-0-32-0; Sel-shary 31.1-6-91-5; Philips: 21-2-92-2; Kirtey 9-1-37-0; Lament 1-1-0-0. SUSSEX - Secon...
N J Lenhern not out
C W J Arney not out
(B1)

Warwickshire v Lancashire 15-59-1: Yates 16-0-65-1.
IANCASHEE - First hunings
S P Ticthard b Gales
- 15 R Gales b Meston
- 1 P County b Smoth
- 14 P County b Smoth
- 15 R Gales b Meston
- 17 P County b Smoth
- 18 R Sathotar rot out
- 18 G D Libyel rot out
- 18 House 10 Libyel
- 18 House Fall: 1-7 2-143 3-143. To bat: TW, Hag2, PC Mickenem, G Chapple, G Yans, R J Graen, G Keedy. Boulling for dately Murron 15-4-32-1: Welch 7-2-25-0; Gdes 22-5-70-1; Brown 11-0-5-0; Smort 18-3-72-1, Unphress NT Peers and A Centern.

Second Test

Sri Lanka v Zimbebwe MBC: Zimbehov, with four second-innings its attending, are 47 runs behind Sri Lan-ZONGRADO NOT NOSE
ZONGRADONE - First trainings 141 (Mu
40), Shat 4-15t,
SRI LURGA - First trainings
(Over-right 317 for 7)
FH P Talescratche not tag. rn P Taleareann not but.

1 Pustratuman e B Strang b P Strang.

1 Ruratheran not out.

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1 Ruratheran not out.

British Open at Gatcombe. ment, he's so calm and willing," King said of the eight-year old, who is now running in his third three-day event. He has an impressive record, having finished second at Le Lion

sion crew from Meridian bad disregarded the pair's prospects

performance. periotrijatice.
BLENHEIM VAUDIĀLI, MONTERREY INTERMITONAL HORSE TRIALS (Woodstack,
Oxon): Standings efter drassage: 1 Ving
Solozon B (M Ning, 68) 40.2 pensiber; 2 The
Tournaine Rose (P Furnel, G8) 41.2; 3 x Couley Koraild (P Suri, GB), James Bigglesworth (M
Cayron-Baley) and Vanito Crastonisis 94 Todd.
NZ) 45.0; 6 Tiger One U Johnson, USI 45.6.

sport

Game looks to Britain to help restore prestige

players currently on their way to Papua New Guinea on the first leg of the Lions' Tour could be excused for suspecting that the whole thing is merely an elaborate charade

Tour? What tour? Most people outside immediate rugby ague circles will be unaware that one is about to take place. There is a simple reason for this. It is not going to Australia - except for a change of planes between Papua New Guinea and Fiji - and a tour without Australia is, in many eyes, no tour at all. It has no sponsor and the media corps accompanying it is - how can I put it? - com-

pact and select But matches between Great

The wives and girlfriends of the Britain and Australia are a victim of the impasse that exists between Super League and the Australian Rugby League. The international game must start to win back the prestige that has ebbed away disastronsly since the success of the Centenary World Cup last autumm in less

> Even in Papua New Guinea, the world-wide split that so disfigures the game will be evident. Four days after Great Britain fly out, following their Test against the Kumuls in Lae, the ARL will fly in to play an alternative Papua New Guinea side, based on the league in the capital, Port Moresby, which has broken away from the rest of the coun-

tourists who were there in 1990 and 1992 will know what to expect from the most rugby league-obsessed nation on earth; lung-wrenching altitude at Mt Hagen, followed by over-whelming heat and humidity down at sea-level for the Test in

Throw in the rock-hard, bumpy pitches, a home team coached by a hard-driving Australian, Bob Bennett, and the ever-present possibility of riots when disappointed spectators are locked ont of packed grounds and Papua New Guinea is unlikely to be dull.

Fiji is another of the code's on-going battlegrounds, with the Super League and the ARL

Dave Hadfield on a tour that illustrates the extent of rugby league's in-fighting

both maintaining a presence there. It is Super League, however, that has the hulk of the more able players - including last year's World Cup squad and the players plying their trade in Britain and Australia - and the side facing Great Britain will be far stronger than the one thrashed by Australia this

It is by their results in New Zealand, though, that the 1996 Lions will be judged. The Kiwis have not beaten Great Britain m a Test series since 1984, but there has rarely been much to choose between the two sides

and Frank Endacott's New Zealand team is less affected by the unavailability of ARL-

It is in the three Tests in New Zealand that the calibre of the Lions' squad will be examined most sternly. For various reasons, their coach, Phil Larder, has been deprived of a full threequarter line of genuine international quality; Jason Robinson and Gary Connolly are ARL-contracted and playing rugby union, with Martin Offiah nursing an injury and

waiting to resume his own union

aligned players than the

placements - far less familiar names like Jon Roper and Keith Senior, as well as more seasoned players such as Alan Hunte and Anthony Sullivan - to rise to the occasion on tour, or Great Britain could find themselves lacking in firepower in the back line.

There are less headaches in the pack, although it would not take many injuries in the front-row to make it look distinctly threadbare.

Much will depend on the leadership of Great Britain's youngest-eyer tour captain, Andy Farrell He has long been

career and Paul Newlove ruled an astonishingly mature player, out with an ill-timed learnstring but he is still only 21, this is his first tour and he will no doubt draw extensively on the experience of his vice-captain, Denis Betts, and Britain's mostcapped player on this trip, Daryl

At the other end of the scale, young players like Paul Sculthorpe and Keiron Cunningham should return with their burgeoning reputations further enhanced.

With the result of the Super League's appeal against its banning m Australia expected during the tour, the reputation of international rugby league can also start to be rebuilt. Is it too much to hope that both Great Britain and New

battle over which is the secondbest side in the world, will be making plans to play Australia making pians to play Allstrana again before this four is over? reservant: 25 Sept: Helisands (Ant Hagen); 28 Sept: Phepla New Ginnela (Lee); 2 Oct: Fili President's XII (Nadi); 5 Oct: Fili (Nadi); 10 Oct: Lion Red XII (Nadi); 18 Oct: New Zealand XII (Nellington); 18 Oct: NEW Zealand XII (Nellington); 18 Oct: NEW Zealand XII (Nellington); 20 Oct: NZ Maori (Minagere); 25 Oct: NEW ZEALAND (Patrier: ston North); 1 Nov: New Zealand (Christohurd).

LIONS TOUR SOLIAD: Betts (Auckland War-

(Civisjohurch).
LIONS TOUR SQUAD: Betts (Auckland Wordow), Bradbury (Othern), Broadbest (Streffeld Engles), Caneloly (Migni, Criticiley (Feiglich, Cuntinghern (St. Helens), Duyer (Bradford Bufts), Farrell (Wigen, capit, Gostding (St. Helens), Hammond (St. Helens), Hammond (St. Helens), Hammond (St. Helens), Hammon (Lects), Joynt, St. Helens), Lowes (Bradford), McDermott (Bradford Bufts), Heigher (Western Buds), Molloy (Festherstone Rodes), O'Coencer (Wigen), Printips (Worldington), Power (Heightly), Prescott (St. Helens), Radfund (Migni), Seathorpe (Werington), Senior (Sheffield Engles), Smith (Castieford), Service (Bradford), Suillivan (St. Helens), Tel-

Robinson ready for hot reception

lugby has been trans-formed so completely in the course of a single summer of unprecedented upheaval that the grand old game would struggle to recognise itself in the mirror. Some things. though, are change-resistant; the All Blacks are still good, prop forwards are still ugly and Kingsholm remains a snarling. seething bear pit of a ground, rich in humour but releatless in

its hostility to visiting teams. Especially Bath. Gloucester home games have always been cut-throat affairs, but the diehards in the Kingsholm Shed tend to be at their belligerent best when the most successful English club side of them all make the 40-mile trip up the M5. Forget the soap opera theme tune; these particular neighbours will never be good friends.

Jason Robinson can expect to find all this out for himself today. Nicknamed "Billy Whizz", the 21-year-old Wigan and Great Britain rugby league interna-tional will have to move pretty quickly to dodge the insults from the massed ranks of Cherry and White loudmouths. Does the prospect worry him? Not one jot.

"There are quite a few tough crowds in league who take it out on Wigan for exactly the same reason that union crowds love having a go at Bath," he says. "Who are the worst? I'm not saying. I might have to go back and face them one day. But I don't think I'll hear anything at Gloucester that I haven't heard

Chris Hewett talks to a rugby union wing enjoying the best of both worlds

Robinson's code-breaking move from one champion club to another did not generate quite the hullabaloo he might have expected after three eyecatching seasons in the 13-man game. While Henry Paul, Va'aiga Tuigamala, Gary Con-While Henry Paul, nolly and Martin Offiah, all club-mates at Central Park, received the fanfare treatment, the welcome for the most exhilaratingly direct runner to hit the league scene in years was comparatively muted.

It took him rather less than 48 hours to get himself noticed. Robinson belped Wigan tie up the Premiership a week ago last Sunday, trained with Bath on the Monday night and then, on the Wednesday, ran riot all over the Recreation Ground as his new colleagues put 87 points on Swansea. "It was only the second game

of union Td ever played - the first was against Bath at Twickenham back in May," he says, "I was born in Leeds and if you come from there you play soccer or league, not union. I didn't even watch it on television; on the odd occasion I caught a glimpse of it, I wasn't too impressed. It was so stopstart, all kicking and no running. "You can imagine how I felt at the end of the Swansea

be no stoppages at all. It really was very quick. You wouldn't have thought it possible six months ago, would you?"

Last weekend Robinson was

iven a first taste of life in the Courage League as part of perhaps the fastest back division ever to take the field anywhere: Paul, Jeremy Guscott and Jon Sleightholme were his fellow threequarters. Bath, self-appointed missionaries of new age rugby, threw it around once again but self-destructed so spectacularly that Wasps overturned what should have been a winning lead and stole the spoils,

"The feeling in the dressingroom was one of extreme dis-appointment," Robinson says. We had the game under control and let it slip, which was unfor-giveable. But the longer I spend at Bath, the greater the similar-ities with Wigan become. Every time you go out to play, you face opponents who are ready to turn in the performance of their lives. It's a big game every week and that is what makes playing for either club such a challenge.

"It's exciting slipping into such a dynamic back line, but it's not just about pace, it's about being a rugby player. People ask me how fast I am over 100 metres and I tell them it's irrelevant because pure sprinting doesn't have much to do with carrying a ball under one arm and dodging 15 people intent on burying you." According to Brian Ashton,

the Bath coach who is also a life-



long league aficionado, Robinson is a pleasure to work with. "Tve never encountered a player so intense in his desire to improve," he says. "Every time he trains, he pumps me with the most detailed questions. When you talk about professionalism, you can hold him up as a model."

"Of course I want to learn,"

agrees Robinson. "These are exciting times in union and it's a privilege to be part of them." So exciting that he might consider a permanent switch and a shot at an England place? His reply

is tantalisingly cryptic. "Everything is an option. At the moment I'm just looking to play well for Bath during the

time available; I'm due back at Wigan in January and I'm con-tracted to go to Australia in June.

"I don't honestly know what, if anything, will stem from this but even if I decided against playing union full time right now, it wouldn't prevent me from changing my mind at some point in the future."

Quins facing first true test

The cricket season is over for Harlequins. They may be averaging 60 points per game but Dick Best, their director of coaching, is a cautions man.

Despite his side's cracking start to the season in which they have run-up some big scores, he is not taking for granted an extension to that run of three wins out of three when the Courage League One leaders take on fourth-placed Bristol.

"We've had a good start," admitted Best, "but, with the greatest respect to the other three clubs we have played, Glouces-ter should really have gone down last season, West Hartlepool definitely should have been relegated and London Irish have come up. So in many respects this match against Bristol is the first real big test for us.

"We are coming up against a very organised team. They are effective. Any team Alan Davies is involved with is always very well organised defensively and scores points. They've always had a formidable pack, they base their rugby around it. they have a good back-row, international half-backs and they are pretty strong in midfield, while outside they have this Ton-gan Dave Tueti. We are fully aware that we are up against it." Much will depend on the cen-

tre pairing of rugby league star Gary Connolly and the former England captain Will Carling – the latter will be playing his fourth successive league match prompting Best to remark: "That must be something of a record."

One run Bath's players will want to avoid today when they take themselves off to Kingsholm, is an unprecedented clutch of defeats. They have lost their last two League games and if they succumb to Gloucester it will be the first time they will have lost three in a row since the start of the Courage League. Kingsholm was scene of a surprise defeat for Bath towards the end of last season.

The Bath captain, Phil de Glanville, unhappy at being dropped for last week's match against Wasps, is back in the side for the injured Henry Paul. A forgotten England man,

Ian Hunter, plays his first League match of the season at full-back when Northampton entertain Orrell, who will themselves be without their rugby league signing Frano Botica the subject of a transfer wrangle with Llanelli - because of a hip injury. Martin Offiah's long awaited debut for Second Division Bedford has been put on ice, like his injured hig toe, for a further two weeks,

The RFU's dispute with England's leading clubs is likely to be moved to a higher level as the governing bodies of Wales and Scotland find themselves in conflict with their member clubs. The English Professional Rugby Union Clubs are calling for the differences to be dis-Unions rather than by individual governing bodies and they want a peace broker appointed who will oversee all aspects of the hearing. The International Board chairman, Vernon Pugh,

is seen to be the ideal candidate.

CARLISLE

1.40 War Whoop 2.15 Caxton 2.50 Gone By 3.25 Kushbaloo 3.55 Bolaney Girl 4.30 Cuchullains Gold 5.05 Duraid

■ Right-hand unchilating course. Bun-in of 250yds.
■ Course is 4m W of junction 4.2 of M0. Station 2m. AD-MISSION: Club \$ 12 (OAPs & under-2(s \$9); Tattersalls SG (OAPs & under-Cls S3). CAR PARK: Rails S5; rest free

SLINEERED FIRST TIME: Million Dancer (1.40), More Joy (4.30). Winners in the last seven days: Non-WINDERS IN THE LAST SEVEN BALLS FORE LONG-RISTANCE RUNNIERS: Million Dencer (1.40), Shabrani (2.50), Remntown Bill (1.25), Buglet (3.55) & Red Tel (5.05) sent 325m by M Pipe from Nicholashayne, Devot.

1.40 ULLSWATER NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,200 2m 4f 110yds 1221 MELION DANCER (25) M Pipe 4 11 3 __D Bridgomier 8 (30), 21 WAR WROOP (25) C Thorston 4 11 3 _____ M Foster 3 _____ A1 SUBD (15) M Hammond 4 JD 12 _____ R Gentity 60000 THALEROS (15) G M Moore 6 JD 12 _____ J Cataghen 0-00P OUSEPLEET BOY (15) Was M Miligan 4 10 10 .

SETTING: 7-4 Million Dancer, 9-4 War Whoop, 7-2 Sojed, 7-1 Theloros, 12-1 Pangeran, 14-1 Polly Cledera, 16-1 others

2.15 THERLMERE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m

3.25 'RED RUM' HANDICAP CHASE 3 (CLASS D) £4,000 added 3m 3 3P2P4-P BANNTOWN BELL (17) (D) M Pipe 7 10 4

n. NG: 5-4 Keshbaloo, 9-4 The Blue Boy, 5-1 Banatown BR, ondoe, 10-1 Upwell

3.55 RYDAL WATER HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,200 added 2m 1f 1 311440- SHARP SENSATION (317) (0) 0 Barket 8 12 0... 2 S1P43-5 WELL APPOINTED (106) (CO) 8 Moctagger 7 11 10 ... 2 61P43-3 PMALE F COLOR (USA) (23) (D) G Moore 8 11 7 9

3 P4428-3 ANORAM (USA) (23) (D) G Moore 8 11 7 9

Callegium 10

In the F Mon (IDA) M Poce 6 11 7 10 Bridgeoter 11

9 446000- STAGS FELL (117) (D) T Cutioest 11 10 0 Minimum weight: 10st. The bondoon weight: Steps Fell 9st 48s. BETTING: 7-2 Buglet, 4-1 Anorsk, 9-2 Sturp Sensetion, 5-1 Appointed, 7-1 Boluney Gtd, 8-1 Silver Sieeve, 10-1 others 2.50 BROTHERSWATER HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS E) £2,500 2m 4f 110yds 4.30 BASSENTHWAITE LAKE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m

1 P4-521U CUCHULIAINS GOLD (15) (BF) / White 8 11 5 ... 2 20-6622 BUYERS DREAM (15) 8 Dison 8 10 12 ... OF3004- GERMAN LEGEND (116) O Lamb 6 10 12 Burke 43244-P MORE JOY (22) Mrs L Marshall 8 10 12 D Boniby 8 30230-P SAND KING (NZ) (SII) Ms L Plater 10 10 12 .

- 8 declared -BETTING: 6-4 Cuchalleins Gold, 3-1 Bayers Dream, 9-2 Gen Legend, 6-1 More Joy, 8-1 Sand Mag

5.05 DERWENT OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,500

21 RED TEL (31) M Pipe 4 11 9 _______ D Bridgenter
HEMPECKED M Hemmond 5 11 4 ______ R Garity
FOUR FROM HOME J J O'Nell 4 11 2 _____ A Rocke

12 BEST FRENCO M W Essioty 4 10 11 Me Nilvon 13 JOE'S BIT OF GOLD Y Cushert 4 10 11 P Nilvon -13 decimed -BETTING: 2-1 Duraid, 3-1 Red Yel, 6-1 Hespeched, 7-1 Sions Wan-rior, 8-1 Best Friend, 10-1 Four Front Home, 18-1 others

MARKET RASEN

2.10 Count Of Flanders 2.45 Early Warning 3.15 Merlins Dream 3.45 Ordog Mor 4.20 Cats Run 4.50 Bellroi

OING: Good to Firm. Right-hand, undatating circuit. Run-in of one furloog.

Course is E of town on AG31. Market Rasen station (Lincola - Grinsby line) 1m. ADMISSION; Cub S 13; Tatter-sails 58 (OAPs who are members of course's Jubilee Club.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Eccoutric Dancer & Suro INEES IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Bellroi (4.50) sent 205 miles by P Bowen from Haverlordwest, Dyl drapura (2.10), Home Cookin' (2.45) & Peter Mo (4.50) sent 250 miles by M Pine from Nichols

2.10 SCANIA NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3.200 2m 1f 110yds 1 11 NORAPURA (47) (D) M Pipa 4 11 10 _____ C Ments 2 34F-252 SEA 600 (26) (DF) M Chepman 5 11 9_____

3 6-03126 TRUE MON (26) (CD) (BF) M Stelly 4 10 13 ... 48-33 COUNT OF FLANDERS (36) K Mougen 6 10 1

2.45 BBC RADIO LINCOLNSHIRE NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,500

036 RECALL TO MIND (26) M Soversby 10 10.

...D Parker (3) 8 SCHOOLG DESTRY M Chapman 10 10...

BETTHER: 9-2 Uncle Google, 6-1 Euro Express, 7-1 Mordio Here, 8-1 On The Home Run, in A Tizzy, Early Wainlay, 10-1 Ghostly Appentition, 12-1 others

3.15 SCANIA HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £6,500 2m 4f

43204-2 HOUGHTON (8) (D) W Jenis 10 11 12 2 322414 ANDRELOT (17) (CC) P Bowen 9 11 12 .A P McCoy 8 4 403F5 DARK OAK (130) (CC) J Cures 10 11 9..... L Wyer 41F22-2 MERLINS DREMM (24) 0 Scenarod 7 11 2......

5 311112 MAGGOTS GREEN (7) (D) / M Bradley 9 10 12 05433F WISE ABVICE (7) (D) M Haramond 8 10 8. A Mingaire 7 22464-5 CLARES OWN (15) (C) J Wage 12 108 ... A Thornton

- 7 Anciered -SETTRIC: 9-4 Musins Drawn, 3-1 Houghton, 7-2 Androigt, 5-1 Wise Advice, 8-1 Maggets Green, 12-1 Dark Gak, 14-1 Gares Own

3.45 AUDREY BUTTERY REUNION HAND-ICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,500 3m . 6121-4F TALLYWAGGER (25) (D) G Moore 8 12 0 ... N Bendley 2-22111 ORDOG MOR (26) (D) M Mesgier 7 11 0... A P McCoy 3 S2F-F1F FRONTER FLIGHT (21) Mess L Sinkel 8 10 7.

6 04-2113 CHINA MAIL (17) (D BF) K Balay 4 10 3 .7 J Murphy

— 6 declared —

BETTPRIC: 9-4 Ordog Mor, 7-2 Tallywagger, 4-1 Frontier Filiphs, 61 China Mail, 7-1 Red Jeen Jer, 8-1 Moobadder

4.20 SCANLINK FOR SCANIA NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,500 3m 1f 1D-3211 CAUS RUN (9) (C) J Lipson 8 11 12 R Supple 4PG204 DEISE MARSHALL (171) J Wade 8 11 0 _A 8 Switch 4P6204 DEISE MARSHALL (1713) 1 Wade 8 11 0 __A 8 Smith P-U DURHAM HORNET (15) Mrs S Horner Harber 9 11 0__

- 4 declared -BETTING: 8-13 Cats Run, 2-1 Detse Marshall, 10-1 Ven

4.50 SCANIA 4-SERIES HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,400 2m 3f 110yds 206-012 BURES (23) (BF) Mrs.) Brown 5 12 0 B Grutton (7 5124/13 SCUO NESSUE (448) (CD) G Johnson Hougiton 5 11 4 3 OF0512 WANDEA (21) (C) K Morgan 5 11 4 A S South
4 11-1112 PETER MONAMY (1A) (8F) M Pipe 4 11 3

5 4/100P-1 BELLRON (7) M Tompiers 5 11 2 _____ A Magnies 6 4/101-P | LOYAM LOW (7) O Shentood 5 11 2 _____ J Shorme 7 2/20-1P READ'S PRUDE (15) (0) S Bed 5 10 13 _____ N Sanigh 8 1-6364P STAY WITH ME (FR) (LD) (C) C Ejeron 6 10 8 _____ Mr R Thomston (7)

The Sporting Life. **AYR GOLD CUP EDITION** TODAY Ladbrokes For customers spending £5 or more - a £1 win double

on Ayr Gold and Silver Cups in The Sporting Life this

Saturday. Valid for September 21 only.

2.00: 1. EQUERRY U Weaver) 13-8 fav; 2 Wigh Premban 7-2; 3. Brochuse Gold 6-; 12 ran. 3, nk. (M Johnston, Middleham), Toh Lasse. The Rebel Country (D Bugs) 15-2; 2. Deira 6-1; 3. Parywings 5-1, 8 ram, 6-4 far Ground Game (4th), Hd. 2, (A Balley, Tarporley), Total 250; 25:210, £1-80, £1-80. Dr. £50.30. CSF. £45.15. Threast: £207.69. 3.06s: 1. PROSES TAIL (Flynch) 14-1; 2. Southerly Wind 9-2; 3. Samdbargadasgain 5-4 fav. 10 ram. 1. sixt-hd. (Mas S Hell, Middlehem), Total £10, £1-20. Dr. £26.10. CSF. £73.81. Threast: £127.14. Thos: £32.20.

o: E32.20. 3.35: 1. QUEEN SCEPTRE (K Falon) 8-1; Head Over Heets 9-2; 3. Miss Stamper 9.37. 4.10: 1 PRIDE OF PENDLE (Alex Grown 1-2 Unaded of PEN 7-1; 3, Street Me A PE

THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + RACING RESULTS

S.Dr. L. 6000 HAND (I Forumet 7-1; 2. Shirley Sue 7-1; 3. Great Oystinn 9-2; 11; ran. 3-1 fev Rushen Reider (4th.), 3, 3. (S Rectlewell, Middlerheth, Tobe 27-90; 22-40, 12-10; 22-20. DF 228-80, CSF 253-93. Tricast: £230.10. Tric: £30.80. NR: Dawadar. Following an inquey, Unice Doug with finished second was desquatified and placed lest Jackgoth Not work £15,598.75 camed forward to Ayr today. Placepot: £30.00. Quadapet: £39.00. Place 8: £76.19. Place 5: £82.40.

2.10: 1. BALL PARADISE (T Quiro) 6-1; 2. Jeffrey Anotherred 11-2 for; 3. Sefty Juck 6-1, 12 cm., 1½, 1½, (P Cole), Tote: £7.10; £2.50, £2.30, £1.70. DF: £17-20. GSF £35.78. Tricest: £191.73. Tric: £31.10. NR Bapshot. 240: 1. STRUGGLER (I. Dettori) 11-2: 2. Hever Goff Ross 4-8 for, 3. Amening Bay 9-1. 9 ran. 1. % (Il Lodes), Tota: 25-30: 11-60, 11-10, £1-40. DF: £3-50. CSF: £9-28. Thu: £4-50. 29.26, Tho: £4.60.
23.06: 1.ETOILE (Fleet) 7-1; 2. My Valentina 8-1; 3. Calypeo Lady 15-2; 9 ram, 100-30 fav Shaudah (Sith), 29. 4. (P. Chepota-Hyam). Totae: £8.00; £2.20, £2.00. £7.20. E7: 527.20, CSF: £58.48, True £22.20. NR: Meshhad. Meshhad (7-4) withdhawn. Rule 4 apples to board proces. depution 350, 400-1 (1348 SOURN) With Ryam) 13-8 fav. 2. Solo 84to 33-1; 3. Hatturrat 5-2. 9 ram. 9, sht hd. (J. Gosden). Totae: £2.80; £1.30, £3.00, £1.40, DF: £37.10, CSF: £41.49, True £28.80.

5921.00.
4.45: 1. DUELLO () Quinti 15-2; 2. Press.
On Nicky 20-1; 3. Young Duke 9-4 fav. 12
ran. 1½, ½, (M. Banerard). Totac 59, 10:
22.80. £0.30. £150. DF: £05.40. CSF.
£131.21. Totast: £405.40. This £451.50.

5.15: 1 THREADNEEDLE (L Detroit) 7-1; 3-1 fav Medise (4th). Ya, 11/a, (Lord Hunting-don, West Relay), Totac 08.80; £1.90, £1.90,

Place 6: £39.87, Pages 6: £30.87.

HENTINGDON .

2.20: 1. ARRANGE A GAME; (5 Te/or) 33-1;

2. Mr Generology 9-2; 3. Record Lover 7-2

Jav. 9 ran. 14, 3%. (Mars J Bower). Total: 699.80; £1650, £2.30, £1.90. Dr. £109.10.

CSF: £165.37. Treast: £612.69. Tro: £145.30. NR: Nech The Dresmer.

2.59: £1. STRONG PROMESE (K Gautel 2-5

far; 2. Shallik 25-1; 3. Ryton Run 29-1. 6

ran. 17. 28. (6 Hubbard). Tobae £1.40; £1.10, £1.50, DF: £5.90, CSF: £9.02. Amended Result. Following an objection by the Clerk of the Scales, Holy Wandering, who drashed second.

odey. NR. Scalp'Em, Wansteed. 3,56; 1. RAMSTAR (A P McCoyl 6-1; 2. Su-Dist. (P HODGS: Your carming the St. 13.85, NR: Loudenstria. 13.85 a. PRIZISHICATION (O Pearl 13.8 fax. 4.55; 1. PRIZISHICATION (O Pearl 10.30, 6 ram. 7, 1%, U L Synt. Total 22.40; 22.10, 22.30, DF: ES.90, CSF: £8.27, Titcast £18.84, NR:

Amaza, Lancer. 4,55: 1. DRURACULLEN PAr R Workey 5-2: 4,75: 1. DRURACULLEN PAR Workey 5-2: 4 rans. 3, dost. 0: Badey). Tota: £4.00. DF: £6.00. CSF: £18.15. E6.00. CSF: £18.15.
 5.25: 2. PROGUTYPE (A Thornton) 10-1;
 2. Ardember 100-30;
 3. Unimente Sencethie
 7.4 Sav. 12 ren. 5. 4. (G Johnson Hougston). Totac £26.20;
 £0.00. £1.50.
 £1.50. DP: [40.60. CSF: £52.74. Tno: 100.20]

7.00 Fermy Hill 7.30 Batoutoftheblue 8.00 Napier Star 8.30 Glow Forum 9.00 Tinkerbell 9.30 Angus McCoatup

STALLS: 71 & 1m 0i - outside; rest - inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High 67 to 1m 4f. Fibre-and, left-hand, oval course.

Course is north of the town on the A440. Wolverhampton station 1m. ADMISSRON: Club 515; Tationalls 56 (OAP members of Diamond Club 54); Viewing Bestaurant 525,00 including entrance and meal. CAR PARK: free. SUNEERED FIRST TOOR Mystic Qu vkored, 7.00], Langking Baccaneer red, 8.301. Lopperetta (9.00).

Med. 8:301. Lioppereum (MANA). FINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. Wants (7.34) sent 181 by J.J.D'Neill from Section Wood End in Combris; Harbet

£4,800 added 2YO 1m 100yds

- 12 declared -ESTIBLE 2-1 Ferry 181, 3-1 Decide Espec As Friendly, 7-1 Novel-

7.30 LINETED STAKES (CLASS F) 5 0-20 LAST ROUNDUP (182) 4 9 7...

£3,000 added 1m 6f 166vds 053 KITA (5) (CD) 7 9 5 _____ 8 Defilied 6 005 DURY SERGENT (27) 7 9 4 _M Houry (3) 7 401 BUCLEON-BERLIE (12) 383 DRINGS 184 403 HORSET HOLDE (12) 389 Flynch (3) 3 600 WHIT MA WANDS (15) 387 - ROBY (7) 1

101 ARCADY (12) 386 ______79 40 MISS PROMOA (12) 384 ___ 184 - 11 declared.
BETIME: 11-4 Aready, 7-2 Betoutoffishine, 6-1
lots, 7-1 Harbet House, 8-1 Supermodel, Sepusk, 18-1 Post Anthorsey, 12-1 others 8.00 HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,500

O1D QUEENS CHECK (22)399 _D R McC 450 KUNG FROOE (24) 4 9 9 __G DWI 242 NOPER SDAR (24) (2) (2) 2 9 8 __

12 005 SHOWENE (39) (397 MHz 13 300 MHZS COMPSSA(10495 T 13 Sto President — -13 declared — EFTING: 4-1 Theatra Magic, 3-1 taposing Time, Negler Star, 6-1 beigh Croffer, 6-1 others

8.30 HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,000 added 1m 4f 1 603 IN THE MONEY (24) (CD) 7 10 0 2 112 GLOW FORUM (23) (3) (87) 59 10 Dayer (2) 4 3 050 Putantily Plus (20,40) 489 __CDny 4 050 T000 (21) 5 98 ______ 6 Car

10 263 SRESTA TIME (28) 6 9 2 _____ R Price 8
11 030 LAUGHRYS BUCCANEER (14) 3 8 13 ____ 12 00-5 ALL ON (87) (0) 58 11 __ 5 Wellowards 6 - 12 declared - SETTING: 3-1 Nambadda Boy, 7-2 Glow Forms, 6-1 In The Money, 7-1 Sommersby, 8-1 Last Roundep, Todd, 10-1 others 9.00 SELLING NURSERY H'CAP (CLASS E) £6,000 added 2YO 7f

312 THETESL (00 (CD) 97 __SWARMS117 341 FANILLY (EM) (20) (20) 98 __GDMMS5 350 HOPPENTIA (11) 90 ______T Speller 48 152 CONTRIVERE (15) 8 13 ______ \$ Center 2 7 300 REN FOR US (2) 7 11___in House (7) 5 7 declared -BETTIPIO: 9-4 Tinterball, 3-1 Ron Lucy Ren. 4-1. Contravena, 5-1 Abstrace Queen, 8-1 others 9.30 MAIDEN HANDICAP (CLASS

E) £3,000 added 1m 100yds 032 TIME OF HIGH (19 38 11 D GATTON IN) & 660 CREEKS PRICE (22 39 10 D R MACHINE)

10 645 REGISTROODG 3813 bitman () 11 100 SELACIEM (17) 3813 Attain () 12 040 SIMP CIMENTAL SECTION (17) 3813 Attain (18) 13 000 KOWTOW (54)3 8 10 ____ R 56)

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3.50 RISH ST LEGER STAKES (CAMP) Added in 69 Co. Russes and 45 Co.

4.30 NATIONAL STAKES (Group 1) Estates

Cup clues lead to Wildwood

Racing GREG WOOD

When Parliament is unanimous about an issue, someone once said, it is invariably wrong, and it is a dictum which might prove to apply equally well to this afternoon's Ayr Gold Cup.
Among the training fraternity,
there seemed little doubt yesterday that a high draw is essential in order to stand any chance of success in Europe's richest sprint handicap. Punters, however, would be wise to treat this prediction with caution.

In most of the hig sprint handicaps, such as the Wokingham and the Stewards' Cup, a "good" draw is simply one near the early pace, and thus impossible to predict from year to year. At Ayr, however, there is a perception that a stall near that stands' rail will always be preferable to one on the far side. and indeed, in three of the last four years, the winners have been drawn 27, 29 and 28. Delve a little further into the past, though, and you will find that the last 10 winners include runners from stalls four, six (twice) and eight (twice).

This is not to say that Coastal Bluff, the hot favourite this afternoon and drawn 28, will be in any way disadvantaged, but nor he is likely to enjoy any positive benefits either. The crucial point in all this is that Coastal Bluff's morning odds of around 5-1 reflect the belief that he bas an ideal position, and thus represent poor value for this reason alone. For all the ease of his win in the Stewards' Cup he now has a handicap mark to match, almost a stone higher than it was at Goodwood, and today's race is perhaps more competitive

Deciding to overlook the favourite is easy. So too is finding a good alternative - there are at least a dozen, not least because there should be pace on both sides of the track, thanks Bollin Joanne (drawn five). Selhurstpark Flyer (18) and Tiler (17). The vast majority of today's runners are fairly weighted and at the peak of Strategic Choice.

their form. What few can claim to possess, though, is significant scope for improvement, and here perhaps there is a window of opportunity for punters.

Double Splendour, Double Bounce, Wildwood Flower and, admittedly, Coastal Bluff are four runners who appear to have better still to come, but one further statistic reduces the list to one name.

Fillies and mares often make rapid progress in the autumn, and have accounted for four of the last five runnings of today's race. Given that today's quota of six females in a 29-strong field is probably typical, this cannot he a mere statistical hlip, a fact which makes WILDWOOD FLOWER (nap 4.15) a strong selection.

Richard Hannon's threeyear-old has improved throughout the season, running her best race so far at Goodwood last time out. Backed down to 10-1 earlier this week, she has drifted to 18-1 (widely available) af-

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Coastal Bluff (Ayr 4.15) **NB: Tea Party** (Wolverhampton 9.30)

ter drawing stall two, but as we have seen, this is no reason to discount ber. She bas an outstanding chance.

Do not be tempted, though, to double up with anything in the Silver Cup, a lower-grade race which is therefore even harder to assess. Look instead to another progressive sort, Indian Rocket (next best 3.40) in the Mill Reef Stakes, the feature race at Newbury.

The richest race of the day by far is the National Stakes at the Curragh, Europe's most valuable juvenile event of the entire season. Sahm and Fantastic Fellow, both supplemented this week, lead a four-strong British challenge. The Irish St Leger too has drawn several raiders to take on last week's Doncaster St Leger flop Gordi, including Posidonas, whose trainer, Paul Cole, saddled last year's winner,

AYR	GOLO	CUP	- 10-	YEAR-TA	LE
Fate of the favour	1986 tes: 2	87. 88	89. * 90	91 92 17 23	93 94 95
Winner's place in b					
Winners' SPs:	25-1	12-1 33-1	50 1 12 1	141 104	21 161 81
Profit or joss to £1					
Percentage of win	ners placed	1st, 2nd o	3rd in land	sece: 50%	经验证
Shortest-priced wh					
ongest-priced win	ment. Jovewo	rin 50-1 (19	(89)	The second	
lop trainers: No tra					
ion jackey: No jock	ev has won	this race mo	ne then once	in the last 10	gears 200

2.10: PHANTOM QUEST, a creditable threequarters of a length sec-ond to Centre Stalls over a mile at Sandown last time, will have no problems with an extra furious here. Red Carnival, who may be fitter for the race, looks the danger.

2.40: GAME PLOY, who encountered traffic problems and was a most unlucky loser when finishing a short-head second to Soviet Bride at Chepstow, may go one better to-day. Leniently handicapped Askern may prove the biggest danger.

 $a_{ij}(x) = e^{i x} (x)$

3.10: BALLYNAKELLY, who beat ast Thursday's easy Yarmouth winner Jiyush by a comfortable 1/2 lengths at Sandown last time, should extend his winning sequence. The fairly treated Midvan Blue may pose most problems.

3.40: SEEBE, about a length third to subsequent Group One Moyglare Stud Stakes winner Bianca Nera in the Group Two Lowther Stakes at York last time out, should make a bold bid. Andreyev, who bear Close Relative by an casy four lengths over six furlongs at Chester. may prove the chief threat.

3.05: INDIAN RELATIVE put up her best display of the season tinue Mark Johnston's fine run.



when narrowly beaten by Class Chief at Goodwood last Saturday. She finished well that day, look well handicapped and likes fast

he is difficult to oppose. But his odds will be far from generous this time. At longer odds is stablemate FOR THE PRESENT, who was poorly drawn at Goodwood but has had better luck this time and is far hetter off at the weights.

4.45: DEANO'S BEENO can con-

Them.	nce in	ire ka	io,	MINE.	λ. Υ
H	ΥP	FF	115	70	779
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9) 19 man o 19 m on	rice in the) (at 11)	ene ene	
	PE			

round. Among the low sumbers,		2	ā
recongili Lad, should run well for	1	3	
jeren Fallon.	1	4	4
	1 1	5	1
	1 1	8	1
35: Michael Stoute has won the	1 1	7	
est two numbings of this event. His	, ,	8	EZ.
ESERT SHOT has yet to hit top	ł		
orm this season hat can over-		BE	
adow loday's rivals if he gets a	i . I	Cal	ost
ongly run race here. He will ap-	1	126	ж.
Ongry run race nere. The war ap-			
reciate this sound surface.		PH	AN
100	l	lec	
15: Coastal Bluff won the Stew-	,	207	
15: Chastar break work fire stone		ha	
ds' Cup with such authority that		Of a	
		~ .	

3.35	Dese
GOIN	G: Goo

AYR

HYPERION 4.15 For The Present 2.25 Hawait 4.45 Deano's Beeno IAN RELATIVE (nap) 5.15 Champagne Grandy

لمكذا عن الاصل

d to Firm. STALLS: Straight course – stands side; remainder – outside. ANTAGE: High numbers probably best for 6f & 6f. DEAW ADVANTAGE: High numbers probably best for 51 & 61.

Left-hand galloplog course.

Recoccurse is est of the Lown on the A758, Ayr rail states (service from Gitagow) im. ADMISSION: Club 5:20; Grandstand 5.10 (OAPs half-price). CAR PARK: Free. SIS

The second secon

ELRADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: Mrs M Reveley - 19 winners from 98 runners gives a success ratio of 19.4% and a loss to a 5 level state of 57.80; M Johnston - 19 winners, 137 runners, 13.9%, 4554.09; J Berry - 19 winners, 221 runners, 8.60%, -5.91.74; S HIIIs - 18 winners, 48 runners, 6.7%, -4.828.

ELRADING JOCKETS: R Durley - 44 wins, 203 rides, 21.7%, -5.35.03; J Weaver - 20 wins, 119 rides, 16.8%, -532.63; J Curroll - 19 wins, 156 rides, 12.3%, -5.51.75; K Fallon - 18 wins, 13.0%, 430.12. — 15 wins, 130 rides, 13.8%, 440.12 BLINERBED FIRST TIME: None. WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DATS: Cretum Gift (3.04) won at Notinghan on Monday. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Night Hills (5.05) & Emerg-ing Market (4.15) have been west 428 miles by J Danlop Fran Arondel, W Sussex.

155 EBF TOP FLIGHT LEISURE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2YO 1m Penalty Value £4,347 24 JACKSON FALLS (2) (C H Sevens) 7 Essenty 9 D., D LANN LOTHARHO (LA) II S Monson) M Johnson 8 MANULENO (C D Berber Lorsen J Heithenbn 9 O..... 30 DOUBLE FLIGHT (20) (The 3rd Meditehan Parmans

— 4 declarad — BETTING: 64 Jaciotes Fulls, 9-4 Devide Flight, 9-2 Leve Lotterio, 16-1 Meetiand 1999: Locylufs 2 89 N Corneron 25-1 | W Wents 1 1 ran 2.25 SAM HALL AND DICK PEACOCK NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2YO 6f Penalty Value £4,698 D) £5,000 added 2Y0 6f Pensity Value £4,60

1 21A340 BOLERO BOY CB; (Sherif Riching M W Essenby 8 7.

2 4510 MANNER (23) (D) Jedicoum A Michaeum's B Hile 8 13.

2 5454 SECRET CORREC (40) (D) Gladesum & Bocksock (Inf P Marin 8 12.

4 243150 SKYERS FATER (10) Onis J Camery Royald Thompson 8 10.

5 134442 BURINGES MANOR (18) (A7) (Medicoum A Medicoum M Johnson 8 9.

6 437 PARRIEDW POIN (ISA) (37) (Medicoum A Medicoum M Johnson 8 6.

3 3034 MARTINE (22) Man A Caryon's A Bakery 86.

8 3425 BURS QUEEN (10) May gain 10; M Channon 8 4.

8 3425 SUBS QUEEN (10) May gain 10; M Channon 8 4.

10 438500 MB. RNAPSONY (12) (J J Rheat) 8 Pating 8 0.

11 4351 MANASSAN (26) (D) Ohr. by Hotspi J Bony 7 10.

11 4551 MANASSAN (26) (D) Ohr. by Hotspi J Bony 7 10.

BETTING: 11-2 Secret Comba, 8-1 Barros Marior, Nobestin, 73-2 Harvall, 7-1 Nighow Rain, 8-1 Bases Queen, 10-1 Botero Boy, 12-1, others
1998: King Of Peru 2 8 4 J Tote 14-1 (A Janua) 17 ran

3.05 LADBROKE AYR SILVER CUP (HANDICAP) (CLASS C4
B) £15,000 added 6f Penalty Value £12,428

BETTING: 9-1 Indian Relative, 10-1 Creine Gift, 11-1 Reston Pond, 16-1 Anvon, Brecongil La mock Valley, Migra Hills, La Petitie Pamen, Catory, Themah, Wardara, 20-1 Bee Heacth Soy, De 25-1 Boltin Harry, King Di Stone, Naisseatt, Palo Bisson, Staffod, Text And 4 Helt, 28-1 other 1986: Neston Ports 5 8 5 R Cochane 10-1 (D Wisson) 28 rat

23-1 water Harry, Klag Of Steen, Nationate, Palo Blanco, Staffed, Tint And 4 Hait, 28-1 others 1986: Arston Pont 6 8 5 R Cochage 10-1 (0 Wiston) 26 and Ponta For Ponta 6 8 5 R Cochage 10-1 (0 Wiston) 26 and Ponta For Ponta Guide.

Mick Easterby won the 22-numer, five-furiong handcap here on Thursday with Able Sheriff and in STUFFED he has a sprinter capable of making Up for narrow defeats in recent Shericups. Berizoe bost out by neck in 1993, Maid O'Canne was bestein just a head in 1994 and Stolan Ness was third less year. The overall result of Able Sheriff's race (statis on the stades side) suggests that those driven high will have an advantage, and Easterby's other runner. Bee Health Boy, in stall 28, has been more fortunate in that respect. See Health Boy's winning record suggests he prefers a bit of give in the ground, though. Stuffed certainly seems to have a decent hondcap in him, having ended tast term with a nack second of 20 behind Double Splandour at Newcaste. Stuffed is a better horse this shason, perhaps best flushing trated by his close fourth for today's nider, Gyles Parkin, at Newcaste in June when Boule Bounce best Double Splandour. Those two are tancied for the big race and Stuffed looks as though he might never been put by for this, having had just one cump if the meanine, behind Cotions Open at York where the draw was against him. Stuffed runs from stall 12, but three out of hour Salver Cup winners have been drawn 10 or less and at would be no surprise of the first time binkers did some good, too, Kastop Pond won lest year's race from stall 25 and is running well enough to suggest he could take the beating again from stall 24. The 1994 Salver Cup winner, Meester Of Passillon, is drawn 10 and the six futiongs clearly suits him as he was fourth to Royale Rigitine in the big race 12 months again from stall 24. The 1994 Salver Cup winner, Meester Of Passillon, is drawn 10 and the six futiongs clearly suits him as he was fourth to Royale Rigitine in the big race 12 months again from stall 24. The

3.35 STAKIS DOONSIDE CUP (CLASS A) (Listed race) £18,000 added 1m 3f Penalty Value £12,244

LADBROKE AYR GOLD CUP (HANDICAP) (CLASS C4 4.15 B) £80,200 added 6f Penalty Value £51,630 "F Lynch (3) 22. T Williams 17 A Daily (5) 1

4.45 JOHNNIE WALKER WHISKY HANDICAP £8,000 [C4 added 1m 5f Penalty Value £6,264

5.15 SPH PROPERTY SEARCH HANDICAP (CLASS C) (for Weir Memorial Trophy) £8,000 added 7f Penalty Value £6,420 Mermorial Trophy) £8,000 added 7f Penalty Value £6,420

1 11-105 MY GALLERY (7) (CD) Robert Cot A Brilly 5 10 0. D Whigh (3) 6
2 220314 PERSAN RATE (14) (C) (0) Abure Gothy J Bery 4 9 0 ... J Carroll 11
0 03500 CHAMPRANE GRANDY (9) (D) (Sardy Gets M Channon 6 8 13 ... P P Blamphy (5) 2
5 252344 CASEMBER LADY (29) (D) (Mas Syd Hove) 11 Eye 4 8 13 ... R Legis 6
6 02500 FALLE ALBAN (19) (D) (M R Channol Ms J Romation 4 8 12 ... K Robot 4
8 212105 CHARRICANN (19) (D) (R Chapt Channel) D Hight Jones 5 8 7 ... A Hacke 7
7 600210 (Mas CLERAN (19) (L) (C) (E) (High Channel) D Hight Jones 5 8 7 ... G Had 5 V
8 60050 Mastra West Stoude (14) (C) (E) Suffetand Hay Mas L Penalt 4 8 3 ... Doubthd 1 8
9 114315 MATURAL (EV (2) Hugh O'Donnel) O Heydh Jones 3 8 2 ... A Mincloy 3
10 044016 SUPER-PRINE (27) (C) (D) (Mas Mem Wend Mas M (Every 4 8 1 ... I Williams 9
11 151220 Mastra West (15) (D) (Mas Hum Wend Mas M (Every 4 8 1 ... I Williams 9
11 204330 Mass PigAlle (15) (D) (Mas Hum Wend Mas M (Every 4 8 1 ... I Williams 9
12 204330 Mass PigAlle (15) (D) (Mas Hum Wend Mas M (Every 4 8 1 ... I Williams 9
Master Westound rurk in the 3.05 race
Minimum weight: 7st 10th, The handlage weights Marsy's Mastra 7st 5th, Mass Pigalle 6st 8th.
SETTIMAS 4-2 King Cuma, 11-2 Matural Key, 6-1 Calebration Calle, 7-1 My Gallery, Superpride, 8-1
Persian Feyre, Cashmere Lidy, 10-1 Champagne Grandy, 12-1 others
1895: Mary's Case 5 8 1 M Roberts 12-1 (M Johnston) 15 van

NEWBURY

1.40 Silca Key Silca 2.10 Phantom Quest 2.40 Game Ploy 3.10 Ballynakelly

HYPERION 3.40 Seebe 4.10 Concer Un 4.40 Socedball

GOING: Good to Firm. STALLS: Round course - Inside; straight course - stands side. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 5f to 1m on straight course

III Course is SE of the town near A34. Station (service from London, Paddington) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members £15 (Juniors 18-21 years £7.50); Tattersalis £10; Silver Ring £3 (OAPs half price), CAR PARK: Free; Pictuc area £3 per car plus £3 per person. SIS

M LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: J Gooden — 35 winders from 134 numers gives a success ratio of 26.1% and a profit to a 21 level stake of 588.34; R Haupon — 34 winners, 471 numers, 7.21%, -5218.00; R Cecil — 17 winners, 96 numers, 17.7%, -525.04; J Dundop — 17 winners, 187 numers, 9.17%, -535.09.

I LEADING JOCKEYS: J Reid — 54 winners, 234 rides, 18.4%, -53.71; Pat Eddery — 44 winners, 277 rides, 15.5%, -548.97; L Deutori — 43 winners, 221 rides, 19.5%, +563.50; W Carson — 34 winners, 236 rides, 14.4%, -579.57.

BLINERERD FIRST TIME: Brandon Magic (2.40); Artial Dane, Blaze Of Song (both risered) (4.10).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNESS: Retor Man (4.40) sent 237 miles by J Bethell from Middle-barn N Verke, Calcathal War 19 100, sent 237 miles by M Johnston from Middle-barn. N Verke.

	D, N TOIR	s; Celestra Rey (2.10) sent 237 https://www.nym.com/norm.norm.ne/
[]	L40	WEST BYFLEET SOCIAL CLUB NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,200 added 270 5f 34yds Penalty Value £5,186
1	615431	RUDI'S PET (22) (Ch (The Broadgate Partnersho) R Hamon 9 7Pat Eddery 1
2	1055	MELIKSAH (21) (0) (Yucri Bro) M Bel 8 12
3	3122	DANCETHENGHIJAWAY (15) (D) (G 4 Bosley) 8 Meethen 8 11
4	035015	LANCRHA (21) (W H Ponsoriby) M Channon 86
5	433	
6	351	SECA KEY SECA (31) (Alcholye Racing Limited) M Charmon 82
7	6004	TALWARD (15) & Ham) W Mar 7 10 P Doe (7) S

Mehinum recigis: 7st 10th. True handicup weight: Jahrand 7st 3th.

BETTING: 7-4 Dancethenightawin, 11-4 Radi's Pet, 6-1 Silca Key Silca, 7-1 Ruthy Tuesday, 8-1 Mehinum, 12-1 Tuffwind
1900: Mar. P. 1-6-1 Silca Key Silca, 7-1 Ruthy Tuesday, 8-1 Mehinum, 12-1 Tuffwind 1995: William Dale 2 9 3 Paul Eddery 8-1 (D Esworth) 12 ron

2.10 KPMG STAKES (CLASS C) £7,800 added 1m 1f BBC1.
Penalty Value £4,967

- 8 deciened -1962: 5-2 Red Carokol, 11-4 Tambid, 7-2 Phantom Quest, 7-1 Lonely Leader, Night City, 8-1 offer Key, 18-1 others I: Wigars 3 9 2 R Persem 10-1 'R Harmon') 12 to:

FORM GUEDE NTOW QUEST has gone off favourite for five of his six taces but his backers have colis use quasis ness gone our securing nor and or in a six races our nei operate have col-d only once — when he defeated Kammtarra by a length and therequarters in a medi-er a mile at Newmarket in May. Sooth of 10 in the Insh 2,000 Guineas next time, he een placed in his three outings since, the most recent when going under by three parts ength to Cartier Stalls (winner since) at Sandown, where Tambid (20 worse in) was a away in that. All his reces have been at a mile and Phantom Quest has been found neck away in the All his recess have been at a mile, and Phantom Quest has been found outpaced close home. However, with this extre furlong fixely to be a help, he can outgon his seven mals. Calestial Key (who was racing for the first time since December) finished two lengths behind Termind (third) when fifth (of nine) to Even Top at York, Mark Johnston's chings did not improve much on that when favourite and fourth to Star Of Zircol at Goodwood a week ago and is only 10b better in. Red Carnival wound up with a two-length third to Harayi in a Group Two race at Newmerket in October and Michael Stoute is tikely to produce the filty lik enough despite the 345-day absence. Night City's three races this season have all been at this track, warning the first, a handicap over the trip. He prefers softish ground and ha prospects with increase with any overright rain.

,20	,315250	PROTECT LAND FOOD FOOD FOR SALES AND A COMMITTEE OF THE PROPERTY AND A COMMITTEE OF THE PROPER	
	2.40	COURAGE HANDICAP (CLASS B) £25,000 added 1m 2f Penalty Value £16,043	BBC1
1		INQUASTIOR (USA) (33) (DI) (BIF) (K Abdullah) J Goeden 4 10 0	
2		CLAN BEN (10) (Angus Dundee Pic) H Cecil 4 9 8	
8		BARDON HILL BOY (10) (0) (NS Many Bessin) 8 Hambury 4 9 2	
4	005025	BRANDON MARIC (16) (R P 8 Michaelson) Baiding 3 9 0	R Hughes 10 8
5	250203	SPECIAL DAWN (21) (D) (Windlower Oversess Holdings) J Dunlop 6 8 12	Tate 27
6	360000	HARDY DANCER (10) (Peter L Hason) 8 L Moore 4 8 11.	A Whelan (3) 3
7	0/12500-	GONE FOR A BURTON (371) (D) (I P Caringson) P Malon 689	G Deffield 16
8	030010	AT LEBERTY (30) (D) (Bruce Adams) R Hannon 4 8 8	D Bless, 14
8	111302	BANE PLOY (B) (D) (Keven R Kyraston) O Hayon Jones 4 8 5	R Cochrane 12
10	0/0400	JOING ATHELSTRAN (USA) (28) (DR) (Non Guise) 8 McMahon 8 8 5	S Sanders 9
11	051135	DEMENUTAVE (USA) (10) (D) (Seansbury Partnership) J Hills 382	M Henry (3) 11
12	021505	THREE HILLS (8) (D) (K Applulant 8 Hbs 3 8 1	R He 15 8
13	021232	TROUGH RISK (10) (BF) (firm McCarthy) G Lewis 3 7 13	C Rutter 4
14	001U2U	EDAN HEIGHTS (21) (I R Mourison) \$ Dow 4 7 12	N Cartolo 1
15	0-4310	MILPORD SOUND (34) (CIT Racing Ltd) J Fanshave 3 7 12	.N Variety (3) 6
16	321100	ASKERN (8) (0) (Hugh O'Donnell) I' Haydin Jones 5 7 1.0	ecleo O'Shee 8
11		FAHS (USA) (7) (City branstrel Supplies Ltd) R Akeburst 4 7 10	

- 17 decision - .

Minimum weight: 75t 10fb. True handlop weight: Finst 75t 6fb.
BETINKS: 6-1, Game Ploy, 7-1, Chan Bon, Trojan Risk, 8-1, Special Dawn, 9-1 inquisitor, 10-1 Three Hills, 14-1 Bardon Hill Boy, Brandon Hogic, Faha, Gone For A Burton, 16-1 others
1985: Nutta, 39 S W Carson 4-1 (R Armstrong) 20 rap

FORM GUIDE

GAME PLOY is much improved this season and was completing a hai-trick when beating Tautan Boy by a tength and threequarters at Chester in July, following with a third behind dead-heaters Daunt and Thames Side hers. In company with Falts , Hardy Dancer and Edgen Heights, Genne Ploy finished down the field against Ninia in a 20-runner race at at Sandown but looked as good as over when short-headed by Sowet Binde under 9st 12to at Chepstow, where he must have won with better luck in nurning. This is a better race but he can get back on the winning brail provided he steers clear of trouble in the 17-strong field, tequalition is useful at his best and may have found the going too lively when third behind Marslings at Windsor, Class Ben, who went in at Newmarket and Doncaster in 1995, has folled to score this season after six attempts. However, he has finished numer-up twee, including last time when besten tax lengths by Ninia at Epsom with Dipalmuthe. Bardon Hall Boy and Rardy Dancer (who finished distressed) in arrears. They all meet on identical terms. The consistent Trojan Risk ran on when favounte and beaten three and a half lengths by Oops Pettre at Doncaster and must go on the shortfast - together with Special Dewo and Gone for A Buston . Solection: GAME PLOY

	3.10	TOTE BOOKMAKERS AUTUMN CUP HANDICAP (CLASS C) £20,000 1m 5f 61yds	BBC1
1	41061-0	KUTDA (70) (C) (Harrison Al Makazami) R Asmetrong 4 10 D	R ### 13
2	4330-60	WHITECHAPEL (USA) (14) (CD) (The Queen) Lord Humangton 8 85	
3	604055	REMAADI SUN (1/0) (Trovor Barber) M Lisher 4 9 0	
4	2-11534	GENERAL MACARTHUR (16) Can Cameron) J Duniop 3 8 0	Pat Eddery 3
5	3630-00	SHADOW (LEADER (63) (James Blackshaw) C Egenton 5 8 9	R Hughes 6
8		BALLYNAKELLY (38) (D) (YY Partnersho) R Alichurst 4 8 8	
7		LALINOI (63) (White House Recont Ltd) () Elsworth 5 8 6	
8		MEDYON BILLE (117) (New) H Pairrer) J Eustace 885	
9		SHARAF (43) (D J Deer) W Mur 3 84	
10		TRUNKEY (B4) (BP) (JE Furnell) C Marm 382	
		NO PATIENN CLAS (K Hasoni & L Moore 481Ma	
12		HIGH SUMMER (778) (David F Wilson) 7 Thomson Jones 6 8 0	
		BOYLED OVER (10) (R.M Crear) C Crear 3 7 13	
		- 18 decisred -	
-		Mary July 4 4 Mary New 2 4 Company North Del Valle Description	Own White-depart

15-1 (Mind. Standow Leader; 20-1 Bowled Over, Starrat, 25-1 Others 1955: Whetechapel 7 8 D D Hamson 12-1 (Lord Humangton) 23 ran

FORM GLIDE

BALLYNAKELLY is 26th higher than when winning his first turf handcap at Doncaster in June, having been rasied 6th since his latest Sendown success, but he can extend his winning se-Querica to eight. The three-year-old General MicCanthur might cause Ballyndiasty most mouble. Winner of his first two races this season, John Dunkop's charge was fourth to Arabian Story at York lest time and this first attempt at the trip should suit. Whitechapel landed last year's corresponding race off a 5tb lower mark while Kutte took the Courage Handicap on the same card and is 7th higher here. The royal eight-year-old was pacemaker for Phantom Gold when card and is no region rate. The topic eigent-year-out was peculiarian for reference implaced to her in a Group Two race here in August on his reapeparance and can reverse Haydock numbing of a forthight ago with Retensall Sets over today's longer journey. Kutta was racing for the first time since that win here when in the ruck in the Magnet Cup at York in July and may be anchored by his 10st.

Selection: BALLYNAKELLY

5	40	BONUSPRINT MILL REEF STAKES (CLASS A) PROCT:
2	440	(Group 2) £35,000 2YO 6f Pen Value £33,085
	411	ANDREYEV (21) (D) (J Palmer-Brown) R Harmon S 12
	1	GENERAL SONG (10) (General Horse Advensing SRL) K McAutille 8 12_6 Duttlebit 2
	21211	PRIDMAN ROCKET (26) (D) (Khaki Aksayegh) J Dunlop 8 12
	210202	MASERATI MONK (14) (D) (The Tivee Bears Racing) 8 Meeting 8 12 Saudiers 3 109
	36360	MILLROY (USA) (9) (Exors of late Mr R 8 Beloerson) P Kelleway 8 12_M Wigham 4 8 89
	12422	OMAHA CITY (22) (Bren Gubby Ltd) 8 Gubby 8 12
		OUT OF SHEKT (16) TO J Alleni 8 McMahon 8 12 D Bigs 11 102
	41140	PROUD MATTYE (31) (0) (L.Fi.es) A.James 8 12
	21	VASARI (136) (Alec Tuckeman) M Charyon 8 12 O thinks 8 103
•	143	SEEDE (USA) (30) (0) (BF) (George Streedundgel Balding 8 10 L Dettord 10 111
•	2144	Secure (result (sold fin) (pt.) (results socialistic); i Daring D. 10 to home 10 % T.
•	ALL	SAMBAC (USA) (22) (D) (K Abousch) H Cool 8 7
7	TIME 5.2	Sombor 7-2 Seeba 6-2 Andrewey 5-1 button Brudest 7-1 Masorati Monk 8-1 Vacari.

arton 2-1 (i Dunkoi 8 ra

FORM BUIDE

Sombe and SAMRAC have leading chances. Seebe's single defeat was a third behind Blancia Nera and Arethusa in the Group fivo Lowther Stokes, beaten just a neck and half a length. Blanca Nera went on to take the Group One Moyglare Stud Stakes and Arethusa winning the Listed Sterina Stakes at Kempton. Even so, skipt preference is for Sambac. Pick of the rolls might be lindle Rocket, who has done little wrong with three victories and is couple of seconds from the outning, most recently when trouncing Omaha City (3ib worse of) three beingins at Ropon. Proud Native, winner of his first three races, including the Listed Woodcotte Stakes at Epsom, followed with a fourth to Easycali in the Group 7 wo Richmond Stakes at Goodwood and his unplaced run last time was in the Gincrack. Selection: SAMEAC

4.10 ROTHMANS NORTH SOUTH SERIES SEMI-FINAL (HANDICAP) (CLASS C) £25,000 1m Penalty Value £17,750

4.40 EBF HARWELL MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO 6f Penalty Value £4,198 um A Maktum 8 Hills 9 O. MICHONINE CHARGER (USA) (46) (Ma MR MAJICA IC J Mescatis) 8 Meeten (ten 8 O. MR PARADISE IGE Archest T J Nauchton 90. ...R HEIS 2

1985: Soverestr's Team 2 9

THE TWO IS NOT THE THE THE THE THE THE THE THE THE TH	LAILER
THE CURRAGH	HY
2 EA) IRISH ST LEGER STAKES (Group 1) £138,000	Princess 3.50 Tessajo

_W) Soppin 43-2114 OSCAR SCHRIDLER K Prendergas 5-33132 POSIDONAS P Cole (28:4-9.8 4-0311 SACRAMENT W Stoop (89:0-5.8 5. 40-5965 WATCHIM Meade 4-9.5 04110 GORDO (USA) O Wed 3-8.12 8 04110 90R00 (USA) 0 Weld 38 12 9 1-11231 KEY CRANGE J On 38 9 9 declared -- 9 sectored - SETTING: 5-2 Key Change, 3-1 Outer Schinder, 4-1 Sectored ing Flance, 15-1 Fm September, 25-2 others

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mai, 11-4 Vergles, 5-1 Daylight in Ochai, 6-1 Azza, Seiso, 7-1 Johan Crayil, The Fire, 18-1 others With Dancer 9 G Pat Eddey 4-5 (N Calagher). The

ver 2.50 Toronto 3.20 Gipsy oe 4.25 Broughton's Formula 5.00 Don Bosio 5.30 Formidable Liz

GOING: Good to Firm (Good in places). STALLS: 6f - omside; rest - inside. DEAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 5f. Left-hand course, undulating and sharp.

Course is NW of town on A5136. Defining on station 1 (m - bus service to course. ADMOSSON: Clob £11; Taxersalis £7; Course £2.50 (under 16s free). CAR PARK; Members £2, remainder free.

LINERURD FIRST TIME: Champagne Warrior (2:20), Spe-WONERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: Broughtons Form won at Nottingham lost Monday.

LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS: Emelshan (5.30) sent 290 miles
by W G M Turner from Corton in Denham Somerset.

2.20 JFS 55 TODAY SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £3,000 added 3YO 1m 5f 175yds

HETTING: 5-2 Are Of The Oliver, 7-2 Champagne Warrior, 9-2 Harms Heig 8-1 Philippot, Chancampools, 10-1 Aydigo, Ship's Dancer, 12-1 others

2.50 EBF MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO 6f 56 AMTAS (10) 8 HAS 9 0

5 EROSION (29) M Joh ston 9 O. OO JOING LIND (32) Mrs. J Ram ___ 0 Cade on 8 SHADED (12) J W Watts 9 D., TORONTO (40) J Berry 9 D., COME DANICING M Johnston 8 & Carter Toronto, 4-1 Armas, 9-2 Balleboro abo, 7-1 Contentament, 10-1 Erosi

RED ONION NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2YO 7f

– 9 declared – I-1 Super Seint, 7-2 Medison Welcoma, 4-1 Tom M Less, 7-1 Ballen Symphony, 8-1 Epic Stand, 12-1 of 3.50 CONSTANT SECURITY SERVICES HANDI-CAP (CLASS D) £5,100 added 1m 4f

ware a was manufaction find a place in close

RETURG: 11-4 Testajos, 4-1 Ques More For Luck, 9-2 Artic Courier, 5-1 Classic Perisian, 7-1 Master Hyde, Nereus, 10-1 others

4.25 SKYRAM HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,450 added 1m 7f 177yds

lenny Benson (7) 10 8

- 15 declared
bilinimum weight: 7s; 10in. True handlop weight: Superior 7s; 8th. Gredousoven 7s; 4th. Doctor's florandy 7s; 3th.
BEITING: 9-2 biblioted, 6-1 Brongfloors Forence, 8-1 Managers, 7-1 Spinning Moutes, 8-1 Longcroft, 10-1 Monace Gold, And, 12-1 others

5.00 GO RACING IN YORKSHIRE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3YO 7f

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John-T, Minoletti, 12-1 Kass Albures, 16-1 others				

5.30 BROUGH PARK HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,450 added fillies 7f

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What's the story (behind City's lack of glory)?

dab of paint and they are ready:

It is less than three years since Francis Lee was acclaimed as the people's champion in the bitter takeover with Peter Swales. Now the people are dethousands. Barring an unexpected revival by against Birmingham City at Maine Road this afternoon, there will be protests on the Kippax.

City are the club nobody wants Docherty, the former United

Even the team's celebrity supporters, Oasis, look in need of good management

manager, who provided his own comic touch to Manchester's longest-running farce yesterday, when he offered City "his ser-

So far George Graham, Steve McMahon, Howard Kendall and, most damagingly of all, Dave Bassett, have turned down what was once one of the plum jobs. Even the caretaker manager, Asa Hart-When Lee intimated Hartford was a contender the caretaker was quick to deny any interest what-

The Bassett deal had been done and dusted on Wednesday night, right down to the names of the backroom staff, potential signings and the "no interference" clauses. Then Bassett woke up on Thursday morning and changed his mind.

Perhaps he had a nightmare in which he saw his predecessors, 11 in the past 18 years, passing through an ever-quickening turnstile while their names were chalked on and off the manager's door. Or perhaps he remembered last Saturday when his team, Crystal Palace, overran an

In fact it was a bit of both, leading to a gut feeling that this was the right job, but the wrong time. His wife had advised him to go, as had his solicitor. So too, had he asked him, would his bank manager, for Lee was prepared



Down and maybe out: Manchester City's Andy Dibble (left) and Steve Lomas after the third of Lincoln's four goals in the Coca-Cola Cup on Tuesday night

to double his salary. However, other people, more closely connected with City, had warned him not to accept the post. The up-shot, said Bassett to Lee, was that he felt "bad vibes".

The news was the culmination of a desperate two weeks for City. Saturday's defeat was followed three days later by a humiliating Cola Cup. Even the team's celebrity supporters, the troubled Gallagher brothers from the rock band Oasis, look in need of good management.

never become involved with the

club; it may only be personal pride that is keeping him from quitting in the face of mounting opposition from supporters with-out and fellow board members and investors within.

It all seemed so different when he took over in January 1994. Lee promised an end to 20 years of predominantly poor manage-ment, football and fiscal, which had left the club burdened by deht, expectation and instability. He also promised to win something in three years - or leave.

FA Carling Premiership

Aston Villa v Mars Utd.

Blackburn v Everton

Sheff Wed v Derby .

Last season 3-1.

Last five League ma

Middlesbro v i

Last five League mutches: Mid-destrough LDWWW; Arsenal LWD-DW

by to play alongside Ravanelli but de-lays a decision on Branco. Fellow

"HOTTOM"

Brazilians Emerson and Jurinho Sco. Australian-Italian Mautone is set to frinces tests. Adams could figure in make his Premiership debut. Shilton, Arsenal's plans just a week after admitting alcohol problems.

Tottenham

Aston Villa v &

WWWDD; Man United DDD-

4 Liverpool v Chels

Lee was a legend, a player from the days when City matched Lee must now wish he had United. When United won the

European Cup in 1968, City won the title. Under Joe Mercer and Malcohn Allison, City followed up with the FA Cup, the League Cup and the European Cup-Winners' Cup, all won, with style, in the next two seasons. For the next 10 years they usually finished

Then Swales, who was seen as a promising and ambitious chairman, made his first big mistake: he brought back Allison and gave him an open cheque book. The subsequent signings - such as the uncapped Steve Daley for a then-British record £1.4m - are results and the haphazard, expensive reconstruction of Maine Road - which has left a 31,257 capacity in a ground which once held 84,569 - gates average 27,000-plus

It is this bedrock, aided by the As City have stuttered the Old extension of City's Platt Lane Trafford empire has grown, swaltraining complex into an imlowing up trophics and sup-porters. Even the school pressive community centre used by 200,000 people, which forms playgrounds of Manchester, so City's potential. It is why Baslong a source of City support, are beginning to look lowards Unit-

sett was templed. There is also the long-term possibility of moving to a new national stadium. The short-term, however, future is less bright. The promised

pressive support. Despite poor injection of capital has not hap-

pened. Lee, who made his fortune in paper products, has invested little, and the other investors have grown weary of his allegedly autocratic style.

He inherited Brian Horton as manager and was expected to sack him immediately. He did not, but neither did he make life easy for him. Lee would appear in the dressing-room hefore matches, a quiet but - given his playing background - intimidaling presence. He also added Mike Summerbee to his staff: Summerbee's son, Nicky, is a player at City, one whose place

Bolton, the First Division lead-

ers, go to struggling Bradford to-

day with their manager, Colin

Todd, insisting: "The season

Todd's team have made an

impressive start to their at-

tempt for an immediate return

But they were brought down

to earth at Southend two weeks

only defeat so far. "We are up

there to he shot at and com-

placency is something we just

Second-placed Barnsley go to

Oldham aiming to get back to form after their perfect League

start was brought to an end by

Queen's Park Rangers, who

can't afford, " Todd said.

and five wins out of seven.

starts here."

the end of an undistinguished, but ultimately comfortable season. In his place came Alan Ball, a childhood friend of Lee's, who as a manager has steered numerous clubs down a division.

City were duly relegated. A disappointing opening to this sea-son followed, coupled with further tales of dressing-room and boardroom dissent. Ball's time was up. Such was the level of discontent from other investors it was him - or Lee.

Then came the search for a manager, and the subsequent rebuffs. The latest is the most cruel. Lee did not even want Bassett initially but was prevailed upon by board members who had first sounded Bassett out. And then Bassett said no. leaving Lee "devastated".

The next man in will need all the support - and luck he can lays his hands on'

For some City fans, Bruce Rioch's decision yesterday to join Queen's Park Rangers as Stewart Houston's No 2 represents a further humiliation. With his consistent success in the First Division, knowledge of North-west football and apparent availability, many regarded him as the ideal No 1 at Maine Road.

Nearly three weeks ago, just after Ball was sacked, Bassett considered City's potential, and problems. They were, he felt, one of only three clubs in the First Division with "anywhere near" the gates and financial clout to "make a go" of the Premiership. And City, he added, "are on shift-ing sands".

"As a football club, City is a political hotbed. I'm not surprised Bally went. He knew when he took over that he was going into building, hardly the easiest task when the fans and directors are screaming out for an immediate return to the Premiership. The next man in will need all the support - and luck - he can lay his

Bassett decided he would not be that man. City, a team who once played on Donkey Common, were made asses of again. Now there is enormous pressure for a quick appointment, but City have to get it right this time. Have they the nerve to wait?

No 154 **Oxford United** by Steve Beauchampé

A friend supports Oxford United. She followed them through the "glory" years of the mid-Eighties, three seasons in the First Division and 1986 League Cup winners. It won't bappen

Much has changed since then. In 1985 First Division clubs won increased voting rights. In the following years the glamour" clubs increased their power and wealth, leading to the formation of the FA Premier League when the First Division jettisoned the remainder of the professional game. Since 1980 alone, such un-

fashionable clubs as Brighton, Luton, Notts County, Oldham, Swansea and Watford have played in the top flight, Success was limited, but their fans' dreams were at least partially fulfilled. Today, however, the greed of those running our hig clubs has all but finished the aspirations of teams such as Oxford. The Football Association. repeatedly outmanoeuvred by the imbalance and its consequences. As protectors of the professional game, they have been blindingly inept. On Tuesday, three Premier-

ship chubs meet with the chief executive of the FA Premier League, Rick Parry, to discuss es-tablishing "feeder clubs", whereby big teams would take over small ones. The stamp of approval which says that some chibs will always be second class. - the dream officially killed off. Finally we have it, football clubs Naturally, it won't be por-

traved as that. It will be sold as a benign helping hand from rich

The widening financial gap will inevitably lead some smaller chubs to either go part-time or guise of a white knight offering some kind of assistance.

Who coaches them, how, and who pays them can be worked out later. Then Newcastle offer to redevelop Hartlepool's sta-dium and clear their debts, taking a controlling financial interest in return. Hartlepool sbare Newcastle's commercial their name, and play in their traditional colours, thus retaining some semblance of independence, but it is tokenistic.

Newcastle fans, unable to ge tickets for the first team, can follow Hartlepool instead (the two sides rarely play home matches at the same time so supporters can watch both sides arryway). Both sets of fans subscribe to Newcastle's' cable TV channel watching the first and 'B' teams

Thus will entire communities lose their foothalling identity to satisfy the desire to remain forever rich, to be "competitive" and to remove the element of chance from a football match because, as Sir John Hall never tires of saying, football is a business - and you can't make sound business decisions in a climate of uncertainty.

Football must oppose moves to create "feeder clubs". Fans have the right to demand that the FA protect the wider interests of the professional game for once and say no to these moves. They should bolster regulations preventing an individual from owning more than one club.

Then they should summon club chairmen and owners and make it clear that the game will be run for the benefit of all and not just the super rich. If the FA can't fulfil this most basic of roles that, as guardians of the game is entrusted to them then history, as written in Hartlepool and dozens of other towns and cities, will never approach Hartlepool, in the forgive them.

the stuff of comic legend. MAJOR WEEKEND FOOTBALL

First Division

8 Bradford v Bolton

14 OPR v Swindon.

10 Grimsty v Oxford Littl

11 Men City v Birmingham.

15 Reading v Crystal Palace

16 Southend v Port Vale .

Second Division

21 Bristol City v Walself

23 Chesternett v Burdev

24 Gillingham v Rotherham ...

26 Plymouth v Bristol Rovers

27 Wattent v Peterborough ...

29 Wycombe v Brentford

Last season: 0-3

22 Bury v Luton .

12 Oldham v Bamslev ...

higher than United.

ed. You need a thick skin to support City these days. Yet City still command im-

After 15 months, Allison was

gone. A succession of managers have followed, none lasting four

years. Alex Ferguson, who com-pletes a decade across Man-

chester at United later this year,

has seen off six of them.

FIXTURES AND POOLS CHECK

Second Division

Third Division

TOMORROW

Cowdenbeeth v Ross County

FA Caring Premiership

- Fast Stilling v Montroise

is sometimes in doubt. 49 Stirting v Greenock Morton **Nationwide League**

33 Cambridge Littly Scarborough 34 Cardiff v Northemptor - Brechin v Hamilton . 35 Carlisle v Deflington ... - Queen of South v Ayr ... - Stenhousemulr v Livingston Stranger v Clyde ... 38 Fulham v Mansfield

Leyton Orient v Colchester Widan v Lincoln ...

Bell's Scottish League Premier Division 20 Bournemouth y Norts County 40 Aberdeen v Hibernian 42 Hearts v Motherwoff 43 Kilmernock v Ransers 44 Reith v Dundee Utd

32 Brighton v Torquey

39 Heinstond v Rochdale

First Division 45 Airdrie v Partick 47 Dundee v East Fife ..

Newcastie

Cheisea FC

Last season: No corresponding fix- Last season: 2-0





Last five League matches: I burn LDLLL; Everton DOLLL

Nttm Forest v **West Ham**

Last five League matches: Nottre Forest LDDDL; West Ham DWLDL Forest's Campbell is still injured but Roy is expected to play. West Ham re-cell Dumitresu but their Czech goal-

keeper Miklosko is still injured, so Australian-hallan Mautone is set to

Sheff Wed y Derby

Last five League matches: Shoff Wed WWWLL; Derby DLDWW Wednesday have wornes over de-fenders Newsome, Stefanovic and Walter, Derby have injury doubte about Asanovic (thigh), but have Powell (an-kle), Willems (goun) and Marco Gab-bradini (flu) swallable again.

Last season: No corresponding fixture

Sunderland v

Sunderland's £1.3m signing Quinn has recovered from an ankie injury

Liverpool manager Evans may retain the Czech, Berger, a £3.2m signing from Barussia Dormund, in place of Collymore after his two-goal debut against Leicester. Guille, the Chelses

manager, has signed the Norwegian goalleeper Grodes, on loan from Life-

and plays. Covernty are still without the Belgan international Genaut who has a grain injury, which means Borrows will continue at right-back.

Last five League matches: Tottenham: DDLLW; Leicester WLLDL

Anderton continues in midfield despite needing surgery to heal a hemia. Spurs also welcome ueck Sinton but Sharingham (thigh) is out. Neil Lennon and Simon Grayson resum for Leicester after missing Tuesday's 2-0 Coce-Cole Cup win at Scarborough.

but we have to he determined. possible, not to lose a game here this season," said McGhee. whose side will be on a high after their 4-2 win in the Black Country derby at West

Wolves, who are third, enter-

tain Sheffield United with their

manager, Mark McGhee, chal-

lenging his side to remain un-

beaten at Molineux this season.

"We're not kidding ourselves

to the Premiership with 17 goals Bromwich on Sunday. Sheffield United will be keep to get hack on course after los. ago when they lost 5-2 in their ing 3-1 at home to Ipswich in the League last Saturday and 2-1 against Second Division Stockport in the Coca-Cola Cup on Tuesday. Dave Bassett, who turned

down Manchester City's job offer this week because he believes he has a good thing going at Crystal Palace, takes his team to Reading in search of a third suc-

won 3-1 at Oakwell last week. Graeme Sharp, whose Oldcessive win in all competitions. ham side are yet to register a The home side may recall League victory, is likely to field Dariusz Wdowczyk after the his two new signings, defender Polish defender held clear-the-Shaun Garnett, £150,000 from air talks with joint managers Swansea, and striker Ian Or-Jimmy Quinn and Mick Goodmondroyd, £30,000 from Brading after a row during the 3-2 defeat at West Brom last week.

Record fires Celtic

Todd warns Bolton

Jackie McNamara faces his old club, Dunfermline, for the first time since moving to Parkhead 11 months ago as Celtic look to protect their 36-match unbeaten Premier Division record. Craig Robertson, the Dun-

fermline captain, is expected to return in midfield, while Celtic, who lost 1-0 at Hearts in the Coca-Cola Cup on Tuesday, will again be without the injured Paul McStay, Phil O'Donnell and Iosh McKinlay. Peter Grant is suspended after being sent off at Tynecastle on Tuesday, but Brian O'Neil is available again.

Rangers, who lead Celtic by two points, travel to Kilmarnock. Killie are seeking their first vic-tory over either of the Old Firm under Alex Totten, who took over in the summer of 1994.

Aberdeen are at home to Hibernian without their striker Dean Windass, who was sent off in the Coca-Cola Cup defeat by Dundee. That could pave the way for a recall for Duncan Shearer, who has been frozen. out by the goalscoring exploits of Windass and Billy Dodds.

For Hibs, the 40-year-old Ray Wilkins is in line to play his third match in eight days.
Hearts have Pasquale Brunds.
David Weir, Neil Pointon and Common States. Paul Ritchie - the "Ibrox Four" their suspensions.

The final game in the Premis Division sees new Raith man Iain Munro face the man walked out on the club week in charge, Tommy I now at Dundee United

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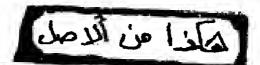
Hockey

Instrumed Paul Despress in Francisco de Management de London de Management de Manageme The Natio First Divise day with a dei midweck de European Cup. The meet Curing the no offside the bank signed champions writes Hill the Paul is not min to retain the

Jacobson Company Compa Sau Mondo bushing wins in the Williams for league last week-lefound Verona e dea siller proposition in newcrymers TOR HE hallempts as Lon-Street rom Dooc from Bourn us ab m u Rumen

Allogation brings Derby at the first American comparison for project and five innight when he defined Royals alongside American Curamitation and Canadian Curamitation. Portsmouth Peir coach Sione, who National Louis or longitow's game by carleonard, Cree the Kiwi M icined by Cormick, wh bridge a few Lawes make





Why the Scots have an awful lot to answer for

It's funny how George Graham takes over at Leeds, and everybody expects miracles. Kenny Daiglish would be welcome at any club, anywhere; he could probably join the ground staff and the club would think their time had come. You see, the Scots have given us many things over the years arrows them en us many things over the years, among them raincoats, whisky, welly boots, the bicycle pedal, the telephone, tarmac, penicillin, the Bank of Eogland and an uoderstanding of the active principles of cannabis. But they've also giveo us great football managers, as surely yen the most begrudging Sassenach will admit. Busby. Shankly, Nieholson, Stein, Dalglish, Graham and Fergusoo have largely dominated British football since the 1950s. In fact, in the last 25 years Scottish 1950s. In fact, in the last 25 years Scottish managers have woo the League Championship 11 times, nine of those wins coming in the last 12 years.

Jock Stein was the only one never to ven-ture south of the border (you can hardly count thre sound of the Forner (you can narmy count two sorry mooths in charge of Leeds in 1978), but he did win back-to-back titles with Celtic from 1966-1974 (leaving Scotland's Old Firm with an obsession with the oumber nine which has reached a crescendo this season). The cyn-

ics will say Big Jock had little competition, but Stein's Lisbon Lions were as close to perfection as it gets.

We know why the Africans make great runners and the Chinese are peerless at ping-pong, but it's not easy to isolate why the Scots are so adept at managing football teams. Most of the greats shared similar workingclass backgrounds, which is perhaps where the seeds of their desire were sown. It's not that they wanted to prove to their "soft southern counterparts" that they were better than them; they simply wanted to be the

The trend started with Sir Matt Busby in the 1950s, a man who even Shankly looked up to. When Shanks was manager of Huddersfield, Denis Law recalls seeing him sidle up to the dressing mirror brandishing a trilby (a trademark of Busby's), putting it on at a jaunty angle and asking: "D'ye no' think I look like Sir Matt Busby, boys?" Shankly even drank sherry when Busby offered it to him, even though Shankly didn't drink. He played to the gallery did Shankly, he had a puritanical streak about him tempered with a wit that endeared him to his players, as Emlyn Hughup to. When Shanks was manager of Hudendeared him to his players, as Emlyn HughOlivia Blair



ON SATURDAY

es testifies: "He dido't want to appear weak in any way. He'd be running with you, laughing and joking. At the end of training he'd walk in and say, 'You know something, boys? Wheo I die I want to be the fittest man ever

Alex Ferguson did his compatriots a big favour by wiping out the argument that to be successful in management down south you had first to progress through the ranks of the English game. Fergie came south with im-

peccable credentials, but even be was almost sent homewards to think again before United (luckily for them, not so for the rest of us) kept faith in his ability to bring success
to Old Trafford.

But despite producing some brilliant club
managers, Scottish national managers have

hardly set the heather alight. Paddy Crerand, who played for the blue jersey in the 1960s, believed that "if Busby, Stein or Shankly had been Scotland manager from maybe 1958 to 1970, I think you'd probably have seen the Scottish team win the World Cup finals." He did add that it may sound daft... But Busby, Shankly and Stein would sure-

ly turn in their graves at the recent madness of the Scottish managerial merry-go-round. First to go was Jimmy Thomson, sacked by Raith Rovers three games into the season. He was replaced by Tommy McLean who stayed in Kirkcaldy just five days before being recruited by his brother, Jim "Grim" McLean, to take over from Billy Kirkwood as manager of Dunder Hoited II page? that as manager of Dundee United. It wasn't that McLean did it, it was the way he did it that shocked: just 45 minutes after Kirkwood had said his goodbyes and departed, McLean was epitomised.

sitting in the same seat, posing for photog-raphers and explaining how he would make the Tannadice club great again.

Next, Iain Munro leaves Hamilton, ap-parently to replace Jimmy Bone who had walked out at St Mirren. It transpires, however, that Munro hadn't signed a contract at Love Street and is set to become Raith Rovers' third manager in as many weeks. In-stead new manager Tony Fitzpatrick takes, charge at St Mirren (and immediately takes the beat off his players by taking them for a slap-up meal - at a Paisley fish and chip shop).

Who said the Scots knew how to celebrate.

Meanwhile Alex Smith resigns as Clyde, manager, and Steve Archibald is sacked at East Fife. And don't be surprised if Hibs manager Alex Miller or Partick's Murdo MacLeod are oext for the chop.

Jock Stein was right, up to a point, when he famously said: "We all eod up forgotten men in this business. Yoo're very quickly forgotten." The best will never be forgotten be-cause they set standards for the rest: standards which the late, great Bill Shankly

Ferguson welcomes Villa test

First impressions are so ofteo misleading. Three games into this season Sheffield Wednesday were the only Premiership team with a 100 per cent record, Evertoo were unbeateo and had the air of title contenders, Newcastle had lost twice and were playing like a bunch of misfits, and pointless Wimbledoo were looking as though their Premiership days were numbered.

Three games later and the memory of those early Premiership tables is fading as fast as the light oo a late September evening. Wednesday have takeo one point out of the last six, Evertoo have lost three in a row, while Newcastle and Wimbledon have won three in succession.

Anyooc who drew hasty cooclasions from this season's opening exchanges would have done well to look back to last year. On last season's opening day Manchester United's youngsters lost 3-1 away to Aston Villa and it was not only television analysts who were agreeing that "you'll

win nothing with kids".
While Fergie's Fledglings went on to win the Double, the match also proved a turning point for Villa, who had narrowly escaped relegation three mooths earlier. Brian Little's team ended the season fourth in the table and with the Coca-Cola

Cup in their trophy cupboard. When United were held to a goalless draw in the return match at Old Trafford Alex Ferguson described Villa as "dour and uncompromising", but as the champions prepared for their visit to Villa Park today their man-

ager was more charitable. 'l have marked Villa down as a big threat to everybody this seasoo and Brian Little has dooe a terrific job in his one full season

in charge," Fergusoo said. With an eye on United's match in the Champions' League oext Wednesday, he added: They are powerful and play with three centre-backs, which is exactly the same way as Rapid Vi-enna, so maybe it isn't a bad game for us in that respect."

England's European continncluding both United and

Paul Newman

Cola Cup second-round duty this season, which could prove an advantage today to Liverpool and Newcastle in particular.

today's Premiership matches, their opponeots, Chelsea and Leeds respectively, were con-centrating oo games against Blackpool and Darlington,

The Anfield meeting between the Premiership leaders and erpool's major overseas summer to wait until shortly before kick-off to find out whether he will

time this season.

a knee operation after Euro 96. may play his first Premiership game for Arsenal since January after being named in the squad for the trip to Middlesbrough, while Paul Rideout is ready to make his first start in the Premiership for six mooths for Everton, who will hope to take advantage of Blackburn's prob-

intriguing weekend in the Premiership

While Roy Evans and Kevin Keegan were able to focus their teams' attentioo in midweek on

Ruud Gullit's team is one to relish. Frank Lebocuf and Gianluca Vialli, rested for the trip to Blackpool, return, though Livsigning, Patrik Berger, will have

Berger scored twice after coming on as a second-half substitute at Leicester last week and hit two more for the Czech Republic against Malta in midweek. With Stan Collymore looking so out of touch, Evans may be tempted to change his starting line-up for the first

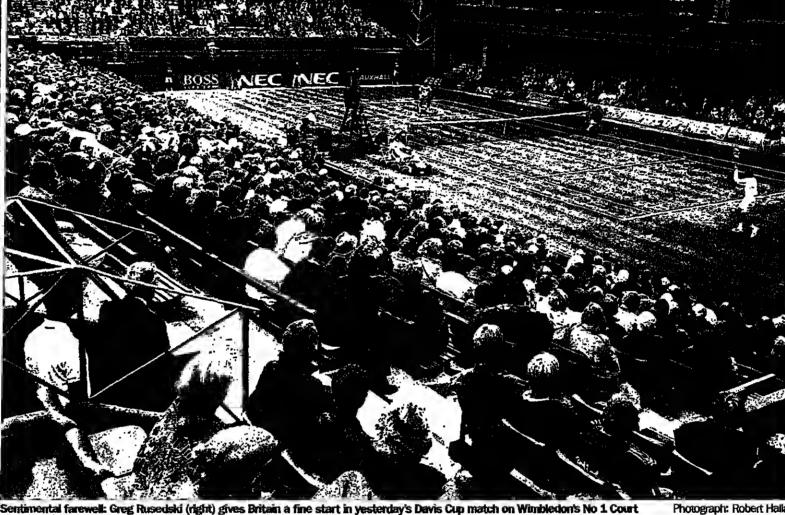
George Graham's first home match as manager of Leeds saw his oew charges scrape a 2-2 draw at home to Darlington and Leeds again entertain Northeast opponents for his first Premiership match at Elland Road. The challenge, however, should he eveo greater as the visitors

Tony Adams, who underwent lems at Ewood Park.

looks forward to an

Villa, were excused from Coca-

make his full debut.



Rusedski gets ball rolling for Britain

MIKE ROWBOTTOM reports from Wimbledon

So far, so good. Britain's Davis Cup team put themselves on the brink of promotion from the Euro-African secood divisioo yesterday as Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski earned straightsets victories in the opening sin-

gles against Egypt. If Neil Broad and Mark Petchey win their doubles match today, Britain will be contending next year for entry to the World

Group of the top 16 oations. An absorbing, rather than arousing day's competitioo distressingly interrupted by the collapse of an elderly spectator with a suspected heart attack was witnessed by a crowd of were the lanyards ringing hol-around 6,000. Many of them lowly on the flagpoles at the top

timeotal opportunity of witoessing the last competitive action on the No 1 court before it is demolished.

The 72-year-old court's oatural intimacy was enhanced by the sense that it was the sole attraction oo a day overcast enough to have the press photographers frowning at their light meters and chilfy eoough for most of the 6,000 or so spectators to have come equipped with overcoats and blankets.

There was, thankfully, no call for the many umbrellas which had also been brought along following recent weather reports. No distant thunders of applause came from neighbouring courts. Between points, more often than oot, the only sounds

were no doubt drawn by the sen-timeotal opportunity of wit-echoes from the oew No 1 court which is being completed in time for next summer's All England Championships.

Henman, who was returning to competition after injuring himself in the US Open, will be assured of a huge reception when he returns here oext July. There was a sense of genuine excitement when he appeared yesterday, and he performed satisfactorily, despite the occasional lapse of concentratioo in a 6-0, 6-4, 7-5 win over 22-year-

old Amr Ghoneim, an opponent ranked 489 places below him. Considering it was Ghoneim's first serious match on grass, he did astonishingly well, and had Henman in real trouble at 3-5 and set point down in the third. But the 22-year-old from Oxford responded to the challenge,

breaking back and then winning the oext three games.

Comparing Davis Cup experiences with some of the players he now mixes with is uncomfortable for Henman. "When they hear that we are playing in division two it's embarrassing given the standard of team we have now," he said. "That's why we are very anxious to get out of this po-

sition to where we belong. Rusedski had the harder task on paper, facing the top Egyptian Tamar El Sawy, ranked 174th in the world. The 24-year-old has played Davis Cup since he was 16, and last year he beat Karol Kucera, the Slovakian ranked

100 places above him. But El Sawy's only experience on grass has been in Wimbledon qualifying tournameots; Rusedski, oo the other hand, thrives on the surface, and he soon acquainted his opposeot with his serve-and-volley game, beginning his first two service games with two aces.

With the score at 2-2 in the first set, both players left the court for oearly three quarters of an hour as medics attended to the stricken spectator in the north stand. Oo their return, Rusedski

took command, winning the next four games to take the first set 6-2. The oext set was relatively straightforward, as he won 6-4, and when El Sawy double faulted to go 6-5 down in the third set. the match was effectively over.

The Egyptian pair's hopes to-day were looking even less healthy as Ghoneim finished the day requiring an ice pack on a damaged racket hand.

DAVIS EURO-AFRICA ZONE Second Division. (Windbiadon): G Rusadeki (GB) bt T E Sawy (Eg) 6-2 6-4 7-5; T Herman (GB) bt A Ghoneim (Eg) 6-0 6-4 7-5. Britaila Joad 2-0.

Leader learns from his wife

TIM GLOVER reports from Loch Lomond

Jean Van de Velde had a word with the wife and established a course record in the second round of the Loch Lomond World Invitational; Howard Clark spoke to his better half and promptly disqualified himself.
Some people can play the
course, others can't," John Paramor, the tournament director, said as the European Tour came in for more heavy flak.

The oumber of players below par dwindled to a handful on a day when the majority thought the positions of the flags made a difficult course virtually un-playable. The Anzac axis of Frank Nobilo and Peter O'Malley were particularly critical after scoring 79 and 78 respectively. Some of the pin positions were ridiculous," Nobilo said, before packing his bags. This is the sixth or seventh time it's happened this year."

Nobilo wants a ooo-European on the executive. "We would be more honest in our opinions," he said. Another player said: "All the members are Ken Schofield's yes meo. Schofield, the executive director of the Tour, is still dealing with the backlash from the British Masters at Collingtree.

O'Malley, who comfortably made the half-way cut here yesterday despite standing at six over par, said: "This is one of the best courses and they've gone and stuffed it up. The pin positions are an absolute disgrace. Someone oeeds to be fired. They won't listen and they haven't got a clue what they're doing."

Gordon Sherry also joined in eveo though he is the touring professional for Loch Lomond. He described the pin positions as a "joke", adding: "It's a stern enough test without making the course stupid. They have to make the greens softer. This is not the real Loch Lomood."

The discord was not unanimous and, in fact, the ground staff have been watering the greens, hardened by lack of rain, overnight. Colin Montgomerie, three strokes off the lead, gave short shrift to the moaners.
"Tell them to go and play in Asia," Monty said.

Van de Velde shot 65, coming home in 31 with just 11 purts. He put it down to a putting tip from his wife, Brigitte. "She thought I was doing something wroog," the Frenchman said, "She only plays about three rounds a year but she is an incredible putter."

Howard Clark, following an 82 in the first round, returned to his hotel, rang his wife and in the process of describing his round realised he had signed for a five at the 13th hole instead of a six. He informed the tournament office and was disqualified for signing for a wrong score. At Collingtree he also made a premature departure, on that occasion blaming a shoulder injury.

The par here is 71 although it is playing more like a 74. Nick Faldo had a 73 and at one under for the tournament is only two strokes behind Thomas Bjorn despite missing three short putts to drop strokes at the third, fourth and fifth. Faldo bade farewell to Tom Weiskopf, one of his playing partners and the man principally responsible for designing Loch Lomond GC, who finished at 15 over par.

Twin Towers looking to lift London

Basketball.

Twins Peter and Paul Deppisch stage a shoot-out at Wembley tomorrow when the Londoo Towers try to bounce hack gainst the Manchester Giants following their midweek defeat io the European Cup, writes Duncan Hooper. The Giants this week signed

Peter who, like Paul, is 6ft 6in and also a long-range three-point specialist shooter.

Paul totalled 16 three-pointers in Londoo's two wins in the Budweiser League last weekeod. But he found Verona's defence a stiffer proposition in italy in midweek and scored just once from 10 attempts as London lost 78-48 in their opening Cup game.

Stere McGlothin brings Derby Storm's North American complement to five tonight when he mal his debut against Hemel anc.) Varford Royals alongside Rod Gregwoire, Jimmy Ratliff, Dion Harper and Canadian Curtis Robinson

London Leopards are waiting for work permit clearance on their fourth American, Tim for tomorrow's game >=ucastle Comets who

Beeston aim to retain their title

Hockey

The National League revised First Division gets under way today with a new format of 23 clubs meeting each other once during the seasoo with the oew "no offside" rule being played,

line up in the Hull squad.

Runners-up Oxford University – away to City of Portsmouth – welcome back their coach, Gavin Feather-

bridge a few years back. National League newcomers

writes Bill Colwill. Last season's Second Division champions Beeston are looking

to retaio their title and this year gain promotion. For their home game with Hull they welcome hack goalkeeper Danny Williams from Southgate and oewcomers Paul Sheardown from Hull, Brett Gillmon from Slough and Richard Stamp from Doncaster. Ian Patchett from Bournville is expected to

stone, who took them into the National League, after his spell with South Africa. New captain, the Kiwi Matt Barr, will be joined by two compatriots, Nicholas Pirihi and John Mac-Cormick, who played for Cam-

Lewes make the short trip to ex-Leopards, Greg Chislehurst to play Bromley who just avoided the drop last season. Chislehurst to play Bromley who

SABS-GU-BIN AMERICAN LEAGUE: Seatile 7 Texas 6; New York Variese 9 Balumore 3 (first match); Balumore 10 New York Variese 9; Boston 8 Detoriot 3; Cleveland 9 Kontasa Cry 1; Cheago White Sox 8 Minnesota 3. NATIONAL LEAGUE: Los Angeles 7 San Dego O; Pitisburgh 8 Cincarosti 4; New York Mets 7 Philadelphia 2; Montreal 5 Atlanta 1; St Louis 5 Chicago Cubs 4 (13 Innings); San Francisco 11 Colorado 4.

Broking

Tormy Morrison, the former heavyweight contender who seven months ago retired from bowing after testing positive for the HIV wirus, said yesterday that he plans to return to the ring. Morrison does not have a date, site or an opponent for his return. He told a news conference that the return light would be a benefit for children with HIV and AIDS. George Foremen has said he would gladly light Morrison again: "Til fight him, it sure would and I would try to knock him out" said Foreman, who lost by deci-

sure would and I would by to knock him out" said Foreman, who lost by decision to Morrison three years ago. Peter Judson set his sights on the British tide he claimed rightfully belonged to him after stopping Dean Phillips to win the international Bowing Federation intercontinental super-featherweight tide in Manchester on Thursday, Judson triumphed in the 10th round when the exhausted Phillips was rescued from further punishment by referee Dave Parris. The Swansea fighter collepsed in his corner but was later able to leave the ring unaded. Vorkshireman Judson's victory was only his third inside the distance in 35 fights, and he immediately issued a challenge to the London-Irish fighter P J Gallagher for a British title challenge.

Miguel Indurain retired from the Tour of Miguel Indurain retired from the lots of Shan 30km from the end of yesterday's 1.3th stage after struggling to keep in touch with the pack in a tough moun-tain section. The five-times Tour de France winner, who started the section in third place overall, had slowed to talk to the team doctor on several occasions. The decision to drop our has prempt-ed further speculation that indurain will announce his retirement from compeannounce his retirement from compe-

TOUR OF SPAIN 13th stage (Oxindo to Cangus de Oxin, 159ton/98talles) Londing places: 1 L Jaiahert (Pr) ONCE 4hr, Imin 48sec; 2 A Zulie (Start) ONCE same time; 3 M Gerrach (Saut) Polit +15sec; 4 f Rominger (Saut) Mape-GB +25sec; 5 G Tostching (Aut) Polit same time; 8 M Serrard (Sol Melmark) Search time; 8 S Fouston (II) And-Gopernor +31sec; 91 Defaut (Saut) Lotts +45sec; 10 D Clavero (Sol MX Ordia -16x0stor +11hin 32sec, Overall standings: 1 A Zulie (Saut) ONCE 50x 19min 12sec; 2 L Jaiahert (Fr) ONCE +1:13; 3 L Dutard (Saut) Lotts +5:24 +4 S Faustrick) Al-Gopernor +8:26; 5 M Mauri (Sp) ONCE +6:51; 8 R Pleater (II) MG-Technogom +6:54.

Football

SPORTING DIGEST

Reading's home game with Birmingham City, scheduled for 1 October, has been postponed because the visitors will have three players, Barry Horne, Jason Bowen and Andy Legg, away on International duty with Wales. A new date has wet to be arranged. has yet to be arranged.

The World Cup qualifier between the for-

The World Cup qualiner between the for-mer Balkan war enemies Bosnia and Croatia has been moved forward a day to 8 October. The Group One match, which will be played on the neutral ground of Renato dall'Ara Stadium in Bologra, Italy, was brought forward to avoid clashing with a Group Two qual-filer between traly and Georgia in Pe-nusia.

August Starek, the former Austrian interrational, has been recalled to replace the disgraced Serbian Liubo Petrovic as coach of the First Division club Casino Graz, Petrovic resigned last week after physically attacking one of his players in the dressing room. in the dressing from.

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER: Los Angeles
Gelany 2 Delias Burn 1.

Galany 2 Dalas stum 1.

RAMSSFERS: Wayne Burnett (medicider)
Bolton to Hutdersinkt; Gary Ellins (medicider)
Kirshledon to Swindon; Shash Garnett (de-lender) Swinson; Shash Garnett (de-lender) Swinson; Shash Garnett (de-lender) Royarsea to Odrient; Gezard McMa-bon (forward) Totterhem to Stoke; Jan Or-mondroyd (forward) Badillor) to Odrient; Manikine (manikine (medicider) Wolves to Preson; Foote Grodes (tonderder) Lilestrom to Cheises.
LOANTRANSFERS: Wayne Buffinner (mid-feder) Bedford to Doncaster. Jumia Cure-ton (toraest) Normach to Bristol Rovers, labo Durm forward) Huddersfield to Scurshope: Jack Laster (forward) Grassyy to Doncaster. Michael McClinathop (defender) Bournermush

The state A place age went all find a place in sleen

(forward) Arsenel to Man Cay, Ricky Otto (mid-fielder) Bermingham to Chariton, Martin Tay-

England's Robert Lee goes into the fi-nal round of the Eulen Open Galea in nal round of the Eulen Open Gales in Bilbao, Spain, today one shot behind the leader as he chases his second Eu-ropean Challenge Tour win of the sea-son. Lee, from London, scored a third round of 71 for a five under par 211 total, the same as Jose Sota, a 23-yearold cousin of the Ryder Cup captain, Severiano Ballesteros. They are one behind the leader, Stephen Scarnill, of Australia.

the leader, Stephen Scarhill, of Australia. BC OPEN (Endloott, New York) (US unless started): Leading first-round scenes: 66 a Cass. 67 a Fason, J McGovern, W Levi, T Yoles, P Jordan, L Rinker, 68 G Weite (MZ), J Deley, T Woods, J Delesing, a Flostier, P Burke, F Funk, T Tryba, J Hart, 69 M Standty, M Hearen, J Suman, K Gibson, J Erkends, T Ily Magness, S Durkap, C Parry (Aus), M Hulbert, J Sundeler, C Pausson, G Russel, Orders: 72 S Finhout (Aus), 73 J Sendelen (Swe), A Cejka (Gen), L Parsons (Aus), 79 G Watson (Zimb), 80 S Appleby (Aus).

SILLEN OPEN GALEA, (Bibeo) Leading thard-draud scores: 210 S Scarli (Aus), 211.
J Stat (Sp.); R Lee (Eng.); J Quinos (Sp.), 212.
F Larsson Swe); I Felix (Sp.), 4 Sendelen (Sp.); I Moral (Sp.); F Jacobsson (Swe); O Edmond (Fr); A Braigh (It); N Katougluine (Fr); A Hansen (Den).

Squash GEZIRA OPEN (Cairo) Semi-finals: J Khan (Pak) bt P Nool (Eng) 17-15 9-15 15-2 15-9; R Eyles (Aus) bt Z Jahan (Pak) 15-13 15-3 15-8.

Chris Wilkinson, the top seed, will face Sweden's Federico Rovia, the draw's last remaining oversess player, in today's semi-final of the LTA Autumn Satellite sentiment of the LIA Autumn Satellite tournament at the Wirral. Yesterday Wilkinson was beat the 19-year-old Czech player Ota Fukarek 7-6, 6-1, in his quarter-final match. In the other semi-final, Hampshire's Nick Weal, who had a his three semi-final. who had a bye through yesterday's quar-ter-final when Avon's Nick Gould withdrew before their match with a stomach injury, meets Lincolnshire's Andrew Richardson.

TODAY'S NUMBER 7,500

The crowd packed into the Sir Ignatious Kilage Stadium in ae. Papua New Guinea, who saw the home team score twice in the last three minutes to knock Vanuatu out of football's World Cup qualifying competition with a 2-1 win.

failed to turn up for a second more than usual."

(So) bt F Fetterfein (Den) 6-0 6-0 6-2. (Microcor) Russian 2 Hanglery 0 (Rus marnes first); Y Rateinfein bt A Savoit 7-5 3-6 6-3 6-4; A Cresnokor bt J Krossko 5-2 6-2 6-2. (Prague) Casch, Republic 0 Sweden 1 (Sweden 1 6 FANTAST drew).

Euro-Africans Zome One play-off (Klev):
Urcaine 2 Norway 0 (Uler names first): A
Methedev bt J Frod Andersen 6-2 6-2 6-0;
A Ryoelio bt C Rud 7-6 6-4 6-4
MAUREEN CONNOLLY UNDER-21.
WOMEN'S TROPHY (Austria, Texas): United States 1 Great Britain 3 (GE names
first): J Ward bt C Creighton 4-6 6-4 6-0, M
Wainwright bt E Schrund 6-3 6-2, C Taylor lost
to S Mebry 3-6 0-6, Taylor and L Jelis bt
Schmidt and S Sureephong 3-6 6-2 14-12.
LITA AUTUMEN SATELLITE (The Wered) Queston-Sheates: C Wiberson (GB) bt 0 Fuscaré, (Cz
Reo) 7-6 6-1; F Rovel (Swe) bt R Koenig (SA)
7-6 6-2; N Weel (GB) bt N Gould (SB) wellower,
A Richardson (GB) bt J Fox (GB) 6-3 3-6 **FANTASY** FOOTBALL

First league tables and winner of Month 1 will be announced

> 29 September. D'Let's make things better

on Wednesday 25 and Sunday

THE INDEPENDENT SINDEPENDENT

THE INDEPENDENT - WEDNESDAY IS SEPTE

'The longer I spend at Bath, the greater the similarities with Wigan become. Every time you go out to play, you face opponents ready to turn in the performance of their lives.

CHRIS HEWETT talks to Jason Robinson, rugby union convert

SOLHEIM CUP: World No 1 revives home challenge after Americans make flying start on day of close encounters



lines up her putt on the 15th green during yesterday's foursomes of the Solheim Cup while (below) Europe's Alison Nicholas leads the search for an American ball

Davies leads Europe's fightback



Sorenstam and Nilsmark (Eur)

Davies and Nicholas (Eur)

De Lorenzi and Reld (Eur)

Robbins and McGann (US) match halved

Sheehan and Jones (US) won 1 hole

Daniel and Skinner (US) won 1 hole

Alfredsson and Neumann (Eur)

Pepper and Burton won 2 and 1

No 3098. Saturday 21 Septemb

Yesterday's foursomes

reports from St Pierre, Chepstow

Laura Davies (who else?) led Europe back from the verge of annihilation in the fourth Solheim Cup match yesterday afternoon. Having lunched in quiet fashion after gleaning only half a point in the morning foursomes, the home side reclaimed some respectability to trail the Americans 5-3.

Davies and Trish Johnson gave Europe their first win with a 6 and 5 steamrollering of Pat Bradley and Kelly Robbins. Johnson, the European Open champion two weeks ago, was the steady hand that allowed Davies, winner of the English Open last week, to have a blast. "We ran

Bradley. "She was not letting up." The world No1 started with three birdies, ended with three birdies, collecting seven of the

5 4 3 4 4 3 4 4 4 5 3 5 4 4 4 3 4 5 72

552 374 130 350 374 160 428 308 348 540 208 461 344 412 340 210 362 444 6,380

5 5 3 4 5 2 4 3 5 5 3 4 3 5 5 4 4 4 7

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5 5 2 4 4 3 4 4 4 5 3 5 4 4 4 5 4 5 7

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5 4 3 C 4 3 5 4 4 5 5 5 3 4 4 4 5 5 77

5 4 2 4 4 3 4 4 3 5 4 5 4 5 5 4 5

5 4 3 3 C 3 4 3 4 6 3 4 5 4 4 2 5

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

holes, Davies almost hit the flag as she drove the green at the 309yard eighth hole, and chipped in at the 11th. "Trish and I gelled from the start," Davies said. "I made a few putts early on, she came in and I finished it off. "

After a morning session played in cold and blustery conditions when bogeys were more prevalent than birdies, the gallery of 9,765 was delighted to see the Europeans put the flag sticks un-der bombardment. "We were having a very quiet lunch time, all disappointed," Davies said. "And then Kathryn Marshall came in, put on a tape with loud music, and all of a sudden the des at the 17th prolonged the

Like Johnson, Marshall had beat Val Skinner and Jane Ged-

miserable year at the BC Open

Claar fired a five-under-par

66 in Thursday's first round for a one-stroke lead over a group

of six players - last year's run-ner-up Jim McGovern, Brad

Faxon, Tommy Tolles, Wayne Levi, Peter Jordan and Larry

Rinker, Another nine players,

including Tiger Woods, were

two strokes off the pace on 68.

fourth start since he turned

professional. The amateur

champion has improved his fin-

DOWN

1 Liable to cut top off (5)

Thrashes around right and left in ship (9)

3 Striking unionist gets dis-turbed after first day?

(10) 4 Table support, note, rop-

ing in remnants on Left

Line for party in trouble.

The BC Open marks Woods'

in Endicott, New York.

Snap's "We've got the power". "They all looked so serious," Marshall said. "I wanted to remind them that this was meant to be fun." A couple of monster putts from the Scot helped to build a three-up lead, but four birdies in five holes from Skinner and a timely first from Ged-

AFTERNOON FOURBALLS

A theme of the day was for not played in the morning, but matches to get to the last only for America to win. Sorenstam winner Annika Sorenstam to holed from five feet as the Europeans recorded a betterball 65. des. The tape Marshall had put Europe had been up in all four on in the team room was of matches for much of the after-

Claar reaches a turning point

Struggling Brian Claar showed ish in each of his previous three signs of a recovery by shooting events and has already carned

his lowest round of an otherwise more than half the money he

noon, but the Americans fought back as they had earlier. Dottie Pepper holed putts as if her life depended on it, as she does most things, and she and Betsy King reclaimed the 18th for the visitors against Lotta Neumann and Catrin Nilsmark. Then, Beth Daniel, whose second shot bounced back into the fairway off a tree, pitched and single putted to ensure a half in her game with Meg Mallon against Helen Alfredsson and Alison Nicholas.

Europe's captain, Mickey Walker, had stressed the importance of making a good start in the morning foursomes. Europe went to the turn up in two and down in only one, but the first whitewash in a series of Solheim Cup matches was only just avoided. "All the matches were very " said Walker. "It's amazing in matchplay and team golf how quickly things can change."

None more so than in the top

cans responded with three hirdies in a row from the 11th. They only picked up one hole, but pars were good enough to win the 15th and 16th, Both teams birdied the par-five last, Nilsmark holing from seven feet, Robbins from four. "I tried to think about all the times I've holed from that range in the past," Robbins said. "From three down, that was a great half." As in the afternoon, all but one

and Nilsmark, went three up on Robbins and Michelle McGann

at the eighth before the Ameri-

of the foursomes went to the 18th. The exception was Pepper and Brandie Burton's 2and 1 win over Alfredsson and Neumann despite being two down after 10 holes. Burton, who sprained her right ankle earlier in the week. d she could have gone another 18 holes, but was rested by the

US captain, Judy Rankin. Davies's quick start in the afternoon may have had something to do with losing her unheaten foursomes record with Nicholas to Patty Sheehan and Rosic Jones. Putting, Davies had said, would he the difference between the sides and the world No 1 missed three short ones.

Rioch rejoins Houston as No 2

Football

A peculiar reversal of roles yesterday saw Bruce Rioch return to football as assistant to the new Queen's Park Rangers manager Stewart Houston, his former No 2 at Arsenal. Houston quickly underlined

the new alignment. "I know what he'll give me as my assistant and I want to make that perfectly clear - I'm the manager and he's my assistant," he said. We've spoken at length about the situation and we're both very comfortable with our roles."

Rioch, 49, agreed to take the position within hours of the offer being made yesterday, de-spite being linked with a series of vacant managerial posts, in-cluding Manchester City.

Houston, who only took charge of Rangers this week after resigning as Arsenal's care-taker-manager last Friday, said: "I had a very good working re-lationship with him for the past year at Arsenal and I know wh he'll bring to the club. His arriva! shows QPR are an ambitious forward-thinking club. Bruce was out of work, so the opportunity arose for me to bring him in and

he was delighted to accept."
Houston turned to Rioch after losing both Frank Sibley and Billy Bonds from the back-room staff at QPR within 48 hours of replacing Ray Wilkins. Only John Hollins remains from the old guard.

Manchester City, still looking for a manager, have signed Ed-die McGoldrick from Arsenal on a month's loan and he could make his debut in today's game against Birmingham City at Maine Road. McGoldrick has not played in the Arsenal first team for over a year.

Another of the players Rioch and Houston left behind at Highbury, Nigel Winterburn, has been charged by the Football Association with bringing the game into disrepute following incidents during Monday's 4-1 win over Sheffield Wednesday.

The 32-year-old former England left-back is alleged to beve made gestures towards Wedl day fans after Arsenal's second and third goals.

A Football Association spokesman said: "The player has been charged on the basis of reports filed by the referee Mike Reed and the fourth official, Paul Alcock."

Oldham Athletic have signed the 6ft 5in striker Ian Ormondroyd from Bradford City, but he was not registered in time for today's match against Barnsley.

Weekend preview, team news, Glenn Moore on Manchester City, page 26

needs to secure his 1997 PGA Tour playing privileges. Woods, who finished fifth "I've shown signs of a pulse lately," Claar said. "You just have to tell yourself it's no hig computing

last week at the Quad Cities Classic after squandering a final-round lead, birdied his last two holes. Claar's six-birdic, one-bogey

round offered him some hope of a decent finish. He missed the cut seven times in his last eight tournaments in 1995 and has' survived the cull only 10 times in 28 starts this year to languish in 153rd place on the money list.

18 greens, his only bogey coming at the par-five fifth hole where he overshot the green.

deal Everyone has crummy years, but it's tough to erase nine months of bad golf. The good thing about this tour is you're only one week away from a good

Sweden's Jarmo Sandelin and German Alexander Cejka, the only two Europeans in the field, carded rounds of 73 to be seven shots behind Claar. Scores, Digest, page 27

In a pleasant change from his Carson injured

GREG WOOD

said that Carson "was just approaching the horse when she swerved round and lashed out. It was a tremendous kick and he took the full force in his stomach. She must have flung him

Hampshire Hospital in Bas-

ingstoke. "He has sustained an isolated injury to his liver." Mervyn Rees, the hospital's consultant liver surgeon, said last night. "The capsule of the liver had internal bleeding but this stopped by itself and at this stage it is not envisaged surgery will be required. The body protector he was wearing absorbed most of the impact and prevented more serious injury. He will remain in the department for not less than two weeks."

Carson, five times the cham-pion jockey, will be 54 in No-vember. He has hinted that this could be his last season in the saddle, and even before yesterday's injury, it has not been a campaign which he will remember with much affection. He has ridden just 52 winners

this year, and spent almost three weeks on the sidelines after being injured in a fall at Newmarket in July. To return to race-riding after his latest accident will be a severe test, even given Carson's famous re-

Racing, page 25

OPublished by Newspaper Publishing PLC, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Lone E145OL, and printed at Marror Colour Press, St Albane Resul, Wellard Back issues available from Historic Newspapers, 01988 840070 Sounds 21 September 1986 Replaced as a newspaper with the Post Office

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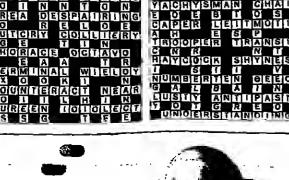
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thich commissioned the study t became the results as evidence of



Last Saturday's solution Friday's solution

ACROSS

It's now or never, perhaps (9) Arrack verbally, be derisive about North (5) Swallow third of soda

water (5) 10 Sees Latin's translation key (9) 11 Carrying on with faceless arrogance (10) 12 Service only half the ve-

hicle (4) 14 Beat counter drunkenly

(7) 15 A fair lottery? (7) 17 Take exam, troubled about university place (7) 19 Screen for the eye against extremity of light (7)

20 Kitty fed by second stake

22 Agree about English MSS, given backing in re-view (10) 25 John delights (h's said) in aimless situations (5.4)

26 Meets targets (5) 27 Time to separate and drift (5) 28 You won't get goals this way (9)

5 Fail to benefit, investing little money in film (4.3)
6 All there? One group's short outside (4)

8 To get around's enough to vex Italian without a vehicle (9) 13 Not convenient? That's outrageous (10) 14 Light match first, one to

try out the jet (4.5) 16 Light works from perfunctory poetaster (9) 18 Extract marrow (7) 19 Planes initially chartered

will be diverted (7) 21 Wrap fish, tonnes hauled in (5) 23 Cross River Wye? (5)

24 One in the sea (i.e., the drink) (4)

The first five correct solutions opened next Thursday will receive an advance copy of the new Oxford Dictionary of Quotations published October 17. Answers and winners' mames will be published next Saturday. Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, E.O. Box 4018, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5BL. Please use the box number and postcode and give your own postcode. Last week's winners were: Mr & Mrs Rowell, Littleover, I. Johnston, London E6; C Corner, Thornby, Chas Rox, Manchester, J Hisley, Formby.

by freak kick Racing

The career of Willie Carson. one of the most successful and popular jockeys in racing history, may have reached a sudden and agonising conclusion after a freak mishap in the parade ring at Newbury yesterday afternoon. Carson was kicked in the stomach as he attempted to mount Meshhed before the third race and sustained a liver injury, which will leave him hospitalised for at least two weeks. Last night, his condition was reported to be "stable, but

Sciena Drage, a racegoer who witnessed the incident,

The jockey, clearly in great pain, was taken to the North

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